Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XX, Issue No. 218 | MONDAY SEPTEMBER 13, 2010 | www.saipantribune.com 50¢

'Elected AG initiative should be decided upon by full House' PAGE 3
Kilili: $8M school funding to cover 2.5 pay periods. PAGE 6

Visit us online @ www.saipantribune.com

POLL RESULTS

Which of the Interior Department recommendations for long-term foreign workers in the CNMI do you support?

Direct U.S. citizenship **141**

53 Permanent resident status leading to U.S. citizenship after five years' residence anywhere in the U.S.

25 Permanent resident status leading to U.S. citizenship after five years' residence in the CNMI only

20 Non-immigrant status similar to FSM citizens and live and work anywhere in the U.S.

34 Non-immigrant status similar to FSM citizens and live and work in the CNMI only

64 None of the above

12 I support improved status in principle but not the options presented by Interior

Sunday, September 12, 2010

INSIDE

Eid Woes

Millions of Pakistanis celebrate Islam's most joyous festival in donated tents.

ASIA...Page 15

Release

Iran will release an American woman, more than a year after she was jailed with two others.

WORLD...Page 16

WITH NEW CHANGES TO LABOR LAWS

Workers could directly go to court to pursue labor awards

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Alien workers are now allowed to file court actions to collect administrative awards without first exhausting collection remedies at the Department of Labor, according to a Friday court ruling.

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman noted that, by enacting Public Law 17-1, the Legislature intended to allow plaintiffs who have Labor administrative awards to proceed with their collection actions in CNMI courts.

See WORKERS on Page 4

'WE WILL NEVER FORGET'

Children and adults march along Beach Road in Western Garapan during a "Freedom Walk" late Saturday afternoon to mark the ninth anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 terror attacks, to remember those who died in the tragedies, and to honor those who fought and are still fighting in the wars against terror.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Dueling demonstrations begin after 9/11 memorial

By BETH FOUHY and VERENA DOBNIK
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITERS

NEW YORK (AP)—Tensions flared over plans to build a mosque near ground zero as rival demonstrations took place after family members of the victims of the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks recited loved one's names through tears at a somber ceremony marking the ninth

See DUELING on Page 4

RELATED NEWS

» Unsettled nation marks 9/11 with rituals of sorrow. PAGE 14

AP

Family members kneel at the reflecting pool at ground zero during ceremonies to mark the ninth anniversary of the September 11th terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York, Saturday, Sept. 11, 2010.

Judiciary joins Executive Branch in work hour cuts, but not Legislature

» House poised to reject Senate version of fiscal year 2011 budget bill today

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Judiciary has joined the Executive Branch and autonomous agencies in implementing across-the-board work hour cuts to help bring down government spending to $132 million in fiscal year 2011, regardless of the outcome of the budget bill that the Legislature has yet to pass.

But the Judiciary will cut work hours by only eight hours per pay period effective Nov. 1, 2010.

The Executive Branch will reduce work hours by 16 per pay period, from 80 to 64, effective Oct. 1.

This makes the Legislature the only government branch that has yet to implement a reduction-in-force.

Its leaders—House Speaker Froilan C. Tenorio (Cov-Saipan) and Senate President Paul A. Manglona (R-Rota)—

See JUDICIARY on Page 4

Local

Chamber to Legislature: No new taxes on bottled water

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce has asked the Legislature not to impose additional taxes on imported and domestic bottled water as proposed by a bill that the House of Representatives may act on in today's session.

House Bill 17-26, Senate Draft 1, introduced by Rep. Sylvester Iguel (Cov-Saipan), is in today's bill calendar.

The Chamber, the largest business organization in the CNMI with some 150 members, said while the proposed taxes for imported and domestic bottled water may seem small when phrased as "a penny" or "a half cent," the increases are in reality quite large and are tied to a commodity that the community has no other means of obtaining: potable water.

It said there has been no government study undertaken on the impact of such increase, which will ultimately be borne by retail consumers.

The bill imposes an excise tax of 1 cent per fluid ounce or its fractional equivalent on entities selling imported bottled drinking water.

A Senate amendment to the bill gives each senatorial delegation an authority to impose an excise tax of ½ cent per fluid ounce or its fractional equivalent on all bottled water produced, bottled or manufactured in that senatorial district.

Kyle Calabrese, executive director of the Chamber, said the current legislation would impose an additional cost of $2.40 per case of 12 bottles of 20 ounce each.

He said this represents a price increase to the retail consumer of nearly 50 percent, or a 7,900-percent excise tax increase.

Calabrese said more troubling is the Senate amendment to the bill. He said the additional tax would amount to $3.20 per five-gallon bottle of drinking water, and is more than the current price for a five-gallon bottle of drinking water.

He said this would make taxes, and not the cost of production and distribution, the largest component of its retail cost.

"Until such time as consumers in the Commonwealth have the option of receiving potable water as a utility, we oppose a 'luxury tax' on our only means of obtaining a necessity of life," Calabrese said in a Sept. 9 letter to House Ways and Means chair Rep. Ramon Basa (Cov-Saipan) and Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee chair Sen. Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota).

Bobby Cadillacs of Saipan
PIZZA
We've Been Making Pizza On Saipan Since 1989
Buy a Large
Get a Medium for FREE (one topping)
No Limit - Buy 10 Get 10 FREE
Buy 100 Get 100 FREE
Beach Road - Garapan
234-3976

Live the Fiesta Way!
What's cooking this week at Chambre BAR
Healthy Menu
Main Course
MONDAY- Hot Tofu Agedashi
TUESDAY - Braised Fish Soy Sauce
WEDNESDAY - Spaghetti Tomato Sauce
Grilled Chicken Breast
THURSDAY - Vegetable Chicken
Quesadillas Grilled
Mahi Mahi
FRIDAY - Chicken Stew
Including: Hot Vegetables, Tofu, Soup, Salad Bar & MORE....
September 13 to 17, 2010
Monday to Friday
11am to 1:30pm
Reservations are required due to limited seating's
Please Call 234-6414
ext. 1547-1548 or 233-6414
FREE VALET SERVICE
FIESTA Resort & SPA SAIPAN

SUB OF THE DAY $2.99
SUBWAY EVERY DAY VALUE ALL DAY. EVERYDAY.
mon Turkey Breast & Ham
tue Spicy Italian
wed BLT
thu Cold Cut Combo
fri Tuna
sat Italian B.M.T.®
sun Meatball Marinara
Make it a Meal add $2.25
Subway® restaurants proudly feature Coca-Cola and Fonterra products.
GUAM LOCATIONS:
Agat
AAFB Building #22026
AAFB Exchange
Barrigada
Dededo Shell Station
Guam Premier Outlets
Micronesia Mall
Mangilao
Naval Hospital
NEXCOM Bldg #20
NEXCOM Bldg #258
Tamuning
Tumon
Yigo Shell Station
SAIPAN LOCATIONS:
Gualo Rai
Chalan Piao
Paseo de Marianas, Garapan
SUBWAY eat fresh.®
www.subwaypacific.com
©2010 Doctor's Associates Inc. SUBWAY® is a registered trademark of Doctor's Associates Inc.
*Restrictions apply. Valid at participating Subway® restaurants on Guam and Saipan. Offer good for regular 6-inch subs. Not valid with premium or double meat sandwiches. For a limited time only. No substitutes.

'Elected AG initiative should be decided upon by full House'

BOE removes comptroller post at PSS

» For duplication of duty with finance director

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Board of Education has approved a new organizational chart for the Public School System, eliminating the comptroller position due to a duplication of responsibilities.

Board members agreed in Friday's board meeting to remove the position, saying that hiring two individuals for the same function is not to the advantage of the school system and its operations.

"We removed the comptroller position because this is a redundant responsibility. The position is doing the same function of the finance director," Herman T. Guerrero, chairman of the board's fiscal and personnel committee, told the board.

He said this refinement and revision of the organizational chart has been on the board's table for quite some time now and has been recommended for approval by the FPA committee.

Richard Waldo went back to his position as PSS finance director early this year, a position that he had left vacant since the term of former commissioner Dr. David Borja. Since then, the function has been taken over by the agency's comptroller.

The board also removed the internal auditor position from the PSS organizational chart and transferred the post directly under the Education Board.

"The internal auditor position is a different issue because it will report to the board and not to the finance director," said Guerrero.

Saipan Tribune learned that Jerry Guerrero, the former PSS comptroller, is now the board's internal auditor. He began work on Aug. 30.

His main task is to address the findings in the audit report for fiscal year 2009. That report uncovered 13 total findings that cited PSS for, among others, failing to adhere to established travel policies and procedures.

The U.S. Department of Education had already asked PSS and the board to address all the audit findings so as not to jeopardize the federal grants PSS receives.

The board adopted Friday its formal response to the US-DOE letter but did not discuss its content.

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rep. Rafael Demapan's (Cov-Saipan) Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations is recommending neither passage nor filing of an initiative to have an elected attorney general.

Instead, the seven-member JGO panel recommends that the full membership of the House of Representatives decide on House Legislative Initiative 17-2.

HLI 17-2, introduced by Rep. Frank Dela Cruz (R-Saipan) on Jan. 28, seeks to amend Article III, Section 11 of the CNMI Constitution to authorize the election of an attorney general.

"After considerable discussion and deliberation on the initiative, your Committee recommends that the full membership of the House shall decide upon House Legislative Initiative No. 17-2," Demapan's committee said in its Aug. 30 report to House Speaker Froilan C. Tenorio (Cov-Saipan).

The committee report is in today's House session agenda.

The recommendation comes at a time when the Office of the Public Auditor is investigating the substance of the complaints lodged against Attorney General Edward T. Buckingham and the Office of the Attorney General for hosting a campaign gathering for delegate candidate Joseph N. Camacho of the ruling Covenant Party.

Some community members are saying that the alleged violation of election and ethics laws involving the current attorney general and his office give credence to the need for an independent or elected AG, rather than an appointed one.

Dela Cruz's initiative says the present system of the governor appointing the AG with the advice and consent of the Senate subjects the AG to removal at any time by the governor and proscribes independence of the AG to enforce the laws of the CNMI.

Under HLI 17-2, an elected AG serves a four-year term and the elections for the AG should coincide with general elections.

The elected AG's salary will be $150,000 a year.

Among other things, the elected AG is required to be a resident and domiciliary of the CNMI for at least five years immediately preceding the date on which the AG takes office.

Back in July, the initiative's author lashed at Demapan's JGO Committee for its slow action on his initiative.

The JGO Committee, in its three-page report, said Dela Cruz introduced three similar pieces of legislation during the 15th and 16th Legislatures but they did not pass or no action was taken on them.

Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan) also introduced a similar initiative in the 13th Legislature. While the House passed it in the form of a substitute bill, the Senate did not act on it.

ARMATECH
LED Lightings For Residential, Commercial & Industrial.
Tel. no 234-8895 • Mobile: 287-5525/898-5943

元通金行 YTT GOLDキン
We buy gold and we do pawn service.
Good Reputation Since 1989
Tel. No.: 233-2368
Business Hours: 1pm - 9pm
Located behind Duty Free and Star Sands Plaza

Great looking glasses for just
$77.00!
Only at Marianas Eye Institute

Marianas Eye Institute
"Where Technology Meets Talent"
www.MarianasEye.com
235-9090
Beach Road, Garapan
Quality Glasses for just $77.00
- Lens & Frames included
- New styles just in
- One-year warranty
- Progressive 'no-line' Bifocals just $127.00
Most Insurance Accepted
Walk-ins welcome

can I win amazing prizes?
Yes!
$10 GAS CARD
With Western Union, you can be a winner with every transaction! Make a send transaction with Western Union from 13 September 2010 to 31 December 2010 and you will be automatically entered to win all these amazing prizes.
Grand Prize-$1000 Cash
Weekly Prize-$10 gas card
Monthly Prize-Kodak M530 digital camera or Motorola U9 Jewel cell phone
WESTERN UNION yes!
money transfer
Look at all the amazing prizes you can win whether it be in our Weekly, Monthly or Grand Prize Lucky Draws!
*This promotion is valid from 13 September 2010 to 31 December 2010. Terms and Conditions apply. For full terms and conditions, inquire at your nearest Western Union Agent location.© 2010 Western Union Holdings, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Man nabbed for allegedly cultivating pot

Authorities arrested Thursday a man who allegedly cultivated marijuana plants in a farm in As Lito.

David Borja Roberto was taken to the Superior Court on Friday for a Gerstein hearing.

A Gerstein hearing is conducted when the arrest of a suspect is done without an arrest warrant. In this proceeding, the court will determine if there is probable cause to continue to detain the suspect.

Associate Judge Perry B. Inos found probable cause to detain Roberto and imposed a $100 cash and $900 unsecured bond for his temporary release.

Detective Sean White testified in court that they did surveillance work in a jungle after receiving information from a tipster that Roberto has been cultivating marijuana plants.

White said they recovered several marijuana plants worth $2,000 to $4,000.

Assistant attorney general Brian Gallagher appeared for the government. Inos appointed chief public defender Adam Hardwicke to serve as Roberto's counsel. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

DUELING

From Page 1

anniversary of the terrorist attacks on the U.S.

After Saturday's official ceremony, around 2,000 activists rallied about five blocks from the site of the 2001 attacks to support the proposed Islamic community center. About 1,500 mosque opponents gathered nearby, chanting "USA, USA" and "No mosque here."

In an annual tradition, two bright blue beams of light rose from lower Manhattan in memory of the fallen towers on Saturday night.

Speaking at the Pentagon, where 184 people died on Sept. 11, 2001, President Barack Obama alluded to the controversy over the mosque—and a Florida pastor's threat, later rescinded, to burn copies of the Quran, the Muslim holy book. Obama rejected the terrorists' efforts to spark conflicts among faiths.

"They may seek to exploit our freedoms, but we will not sacrifice the liberties we cherish or hunker down behind walls of suspicion and mistrust. They may wish to drive us apart, but we will not give in to their hatred and prejudice," Obama said.

"As Americans we are not—and never will be—at war with Islam," the president said. "It was not a religion that attacked us that September day—it was al-Qaida, a sorry band of men which perverts religion."

Family members gathering at observances in New York and Pennsylvania brought flowers, pictures of loved ones and American flags, but no signs of opposition or support for the mosque. As they read victims' names, they urged a restrained tone.

"Let today never, ever be a national holiday. Let it not be a celebration," said Karen Carroll, who lost her brother, firefighter Thomas Kuveikis. "It's a day to be somber; it's a day to reflect on all those thousands of people that died for us in the United States."

Shortly after the city's memorial service, groups of protesters took up positions in lower Manhattan, blocks apart and representing both sides of the debate over the mosque, which has roiled U.S. politics for weeks leading up to the anniversary. The debate pits advocates of religious freedom against critics who say putting an Islamic center so close to ground zero disrespects the dead.

Near City Hall, supporters of the mosque toted signs, including one that read, "The attack on Islam is racism." Opponents carried placards that read, "Stop Obama's Mosque" and "Never forgive, never forget, no WTC mosque."

There were no arrests in New York, police said. There were scattered scuffles in the streets, including one in which a man ripped up another's poster advocating freedom of religion and the second man struck back with the stick.

At the anniversary ceremony, stifling sobs in front of microphones, some Sept. 11 family members who read names sought to emphasize sentiments on all sides of the mosque argument.

Some—like Elizabeth Mathers, whose father, Charles Mathers, worked at Marsh & McLennan at the trade center—stressed that ground zero is hallowed.

"New York, please be mindful this is a sacred site and should be respected as such," she said.

Many sought to embrace unity and a spirit of reaching out, which is what the developers of the Islamic center have said is their goal.

"May we share your courage as we build bridges with other people to prevent this from happening again and to preserve human dignity for all," said Robert Ferris, saluting the dozens of construction workers rebuilding at ground zero who joined families in reading names.

Ferris lost his father, who worked at Aon Corp.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg spoke briefly of the 2001 attack: "No other public tragedy has cut our city so deeply. No other place is as filled with our compassion, our love and our solidarity."

Vice President Joe Biden also spoke at the New York ceremony, where 2,752 people were killed when two jetliners flew into the trade center.

Moments of silence were held at 8:46 a.m., 9:03 a.m., 9:59 a.m. and 10:28 a.m. to mark the times the hijacked jetliners hit the north and south towers of the World Trade Center, as well as the times they collapsed.

Hundreds of family members later placed roses in a reflecting pool at ground zero in front of a memorial, leaving scrawled remembrances on paper around it.

Around the spot where they paid tribute, ground zero is transforming itself. Just this week, officials hoisted a 70-foot (21-meter) piece of trade center steel there and vowed to open the Sept. 11 memorial, with two waterfalls marking where the towers stood, by next year. At the northwest corner of the site, 1 World Trade Center, formerly known as the Freedom Tower, now rises 36 stories above ground. It is set to open in 2013 and be 1,776 feet (541 meters) tall, taller than the original trade center.

In Shanksville, Pennsylvania, first lady Michelle Obama and her predecessor, Laura Bush, spoke at a public event together for the first time since last year's presidential inauguration. At the rural field where the 40 passengers and crew of United Flight 93 who fought back against the hijackers lost their lives, Obama said "a scar in the earth has healed," and Bush said "Americans have no division" on this day.

In New York, the leader of a small Christian congregation in Gainesville, Florida, who had planned to burn copies of the Quran to mark the Sept. 11 anniversary, called off his plans.

Pastor Terry Jones gave a television interview to NBC's "Today" after flying to New York in hopes of meeting with leaders of the mosque and persuading them to move the Islamic center in exchange for his canceling his own plans. No meeting had taken place, he said.

Nonetheless, "We feel that God is telling us to stop," he said. "Not today, not ever. We're not going to go back and do it. It is totally canceled."

Lending credence to Jones' comments, a "Burn a Koran Day" banner outside his Florida church was taken down.

Jones' plan had drawn opposition across the political spectrum and the world. Obama had appealed to him on television, and Defense Secretary Robert Gates in a personal phone call, not to burn the Islamic holy book. Gen. David Petraeus, head of the U.S. mission in Afghanistan, said carrying out the plan would have endangered American troops.

JUDICIARY

From Page 1

have so far only talked about sharing the burden but have yet to issue formal notices or memorandum to cut work hours for their employees.

Tenorio had said the Legislature can still function on a four-day workweek.

Lawmakers, along with the governor, lieutenant governor, judges and justices, are constitutionally protected from work hour cuts.

However, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos have voluntarily subjected themselves to 10-percent pay cuts.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said Fitial and Inos may also bring their pay cuts to 20 percent, the equivalent of a 16-hour cut for all other government employees.

Inos, in an interview on Friday, said the administration "applauds" the Judiciary for its efforts to also cut work hours.

"The Judiciary has also taken steps to reduce work ours. They started sending notices to their employees, and we applaud their efforts," Inos said.

Chief Justice Miguel S. Demapan informed the administration and the Legislature last week about the Judiciary's implementation of reduction-in-force action.

Demapan, in a letter to Manglona and Tenorio, said he and Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja issued on Sept. 1 a 60-day notification to all contract employees of the Supreme Court, the Superior Court, Administrative Office, and Law Revision Commission, "informing them of a reduction equaling eight working hours per pay period."

Demapan and Naraja also notified the Office of Personnel Management of the Judiciary's intent to implement a reduction-in-force for civil service employees.

"The Judiciary understands that difficult choices must be made and necessary actions taken due to declining government revenues. We stand ready to be a good partner in government and would like to continue working closely with the Executive and Legislative branches to ensure that the needs of the Commonwealth government and its people are met," Demapan said in his two-page letter to the Legislature.

Tracy Guerrero, the director of courts, said in a phone interview that the Judiciary has yet to finalize how it is going to implement the eight-hour cuts.

Among the options are an every-other-Friday shutdown and flexible work hours depending on the office or unit's workload or function within the Judiciary.

The Fitial administration issued notices of work hour cuts in late August. They will take effect 30 days from receipt of the notices, just in time for the start of fiscal year 2011 on Oct. 1. The administration is also looking at abolishing unnecessary positions.

The government's financial crisis has gotten worse. On Friday, non-essential government employees didn't receive their paychecks due to a shortage in government cash collections.

This was the second time in CNMI history that a payless payday occurred, although Inos said it would be more fitting to call it "a partial payless payday" because doctors, nurses, police officers, firefighters and corrections officers, among other essential positions, got their paper checks.

The rest may receive their paper checks on Wednesday or later, depending on cash collections.

'8-hour cut in budget bill will not work'

Inos said the Fitial administration is hoping that the Legislature will also follow suit in implementing a reduction-in-force.

Inos, at the same time, said a budget bill that calls for only eight hours of work cut every pay period "will not work."

Today, the House is set to act on the Senate-amended budget bill. Rep. Ramon Basa (Cov-Saipan) said the majority will reject the spending measure and both the House and Senate will go into a conference committee.

Sen. Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota), chair of the Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee, has taken a pro-active approach by recommending, this early, to Manglona a list of conferees.

Taimanao recommended herself and four other members of her committee.

The Senate wants only an eight-hour cut, but the House leadership and the administration say the cut should be 16 hours per pay period.

Failure to pass a budget by Oct. 1 will force the government to shut down.

WORKERS

From Page 1

Wiseman issued the ruling in the lawsuit filed by workers Marites A. Aurelio, Ronna D. Santa Domingo, and Rosalima C. Oliva against their former employers, Bienvenida C. Camacho and Felipe SN. Camacho.

Wiseman denied Bienvenida Camacho's motion to dismiss the lawsuit and granted the cross motion for summary judgment filed by Aurelio, Santa Domingo, and Oliva.

Because the Legislature clarified and replaced the court's decision in the case filed by Smith & Williams, Wiseman said the Legislature made its intent clear that plaintiffs could in fact enforce their administrative orders on their own initiative, without first seeking leave by Labor.

Aurelio, Santa Domingo and Oliva filed a complaint against the two Camachos in January 2010 in an attempt to enforce Labor's administrative order of May 12, 2008, awarding them specific back wages and other relief.

Felipe Camacho filed a motion to dismiss, arguing that since Labor failed to file suit in the Superior Court to collect its 2008 order, the plaintiffs' complaint should be dismissed.

Felipe Camacho, however, later settled the case. The court approved the settlement and dismissed the claims.

Bienvenida Camacho, through counsel Robert Myers, also filed a motion to dismiss, arguing that the court does not have jurisdiction on this matter since the plaintiffs failed to formally ask Labor to collect and enforce its administrative order.

Myers asserted that the complaint should be dismissed because the plaintiffs failed to seek a petition for judicial review or mandamus relief.

Myers cited two Superior Court small claims decisions (in Smith & Williams and Ren Zhou cases) to assert that Labor is the only authority to collect and enforce administrative orders or awards.

The plaintiffs, through counsel Joshua Berger, countered by saying that since Labor did not, and would not, enforce their awards, any efforts by the plaintiffs to try and have Labor enforce those awards would have been futile.

Berger argued that they did not need to formally request Labor to collect the awards nor did they need to file a petition for judicial review since this case was before the court solely for collection purposes.

The defendant replied that Labor is the sole authority to collect all administrative orders under the Nonresident Workers Act and the Alien Labor Rules and Regulations.

Myers argued that the two small claims cases being relied upon are not solely limited to the recovery of labor bonds by Labor and that the court should apply the Alien Labor Rules and Regulations to this case.

In his ruling, Wiseman determined that sections of Public Law 17-1 make clear that a worker may bring direct action against an employer for back wages.

In addition, Wiseman said, because a section of P.L. 17-1 has retroactive effect and preserves claims that are subject to dismissal for lack of authority to bring a direct action, Camacho's motion to dismiss must be denied.

Public Law 17-1 took effect on Feb. 5, 2007.

Wiseman said that, by enacting P.L. 17-1, the Legislature intended to allow plaintiffs to proceed with their collection actions in CNMI courts without first exhausting collection remedies at Labor.

Because the Legislature clarified and replaced the ruling in the Smith & Williams case, Wiseman said, the Legislature made its intent clear that plaintiffs could in fact enforce their administrative orders on their own, without first seeking the approval of Labor.

THROUGH 'JUST A PINCH RECIPE CLUB'

Saipan woman wins a blue ribbon for kelaguen recipe

FRANKLIN, Tenn.—Saipan resident Connie Guerrero is sharing her recipes with thousands of hometown cooks at Just A Pinch Recipe Club, the new online community created for and by cooks in hometown America.

Guerrero

Guerrero's Spicy Grilled Beef Salad "Kelaguen" recipe was selected as a blue ribbon stand-out on the Club's website, www.justapinch.com. To land the distinction, she served up a full-flavored festive side dish that was both tasty and easy to prepare. The blue ribbon was awarded by Janet Tharpe, hostess and recipe tester for Just A Pinch Recipe Club.

"Fresh, spicy and hearty all rolled into one salad?! You betcha!" says Tharpe. "The flavors all blend wonderfully together and would make for a perfect game-time treat."

The recipe, along with thousands of others, can be viewed, printed and shared at no charge through the online club. Guerrero is participating in what is billed "America's Greatest Recipe Swap." Members can post family recipes and search, print, chat about and try recipes submitted by other members. They can also save recipes to a personal online recipe box, create grocery lists, plan meals and print hundreds of grocery coupons.

In addition, members can create or join groups based on existing relationships (families, church and civic groups, etc.), or affinities such as diabetic meals, crock pot cooking, and budget meals, to share recipes with other group members.

ON THE NET
- www.justapinch.com
- www.facebook.com/justapinch

Founded in 2010, Just A Pinch Recipe Club offers free memberships and premium perks. For more information, visit www.justapinch.com or www.facebook.com/justapinch. ***(PR)***

Spicy Grilled Beef Salad "kelaguen"

By Connie Guerrero (Saipan)

Ingredients

1 1/2 c 1/2 thick steak fillet
1 c green onions (chopped)
1 c red onions (sliced)
1/2 md cucumber (diced)
1 pt cherry (grape) tomato
1 c cilantro (chopped)
1 lg lemon grass (chopped 1
1 c fresh mint (chopped)
1 c fresh lime juice
1/3 c fish sauce
1/4 tsp white sugar
1 Tbsp sweet chili sauce
1 md head lelluce (rinsed, dried and torn into bite size pieces
1 pinch fresh lime zest
2-3 sm red hot chili peppers (minced)

Directions

In a large bowl, stir together the green onions, red onions, lemon grass, cilantro, mint leaves, lime juice, fish sauce, chili sauce and sugar until well combined and the sugar is dissolved. Adjust the flavor, if desired, by adding more sugar and/or fish sauce. Set aside.

Cook the steak over high heat on a preheated grill for approximately 4-6 minutes on each side, until it is cooked medium. Do not overcook the meat! Remove from heat and slice into thin strips. Add the meat and its juices to the sauce and refrigerate, tightly covered, for at least 30 minutes.

Tear the lettuce into bite size pieces and place in a salad bowl. Arrange the cucumber on top of the lettuce, and then pour the meat and sauce over. Top with the cherry tomatoes and garnish with fresh cilantro leaves. Optional: sprinkle chopped red hot peppers and lime zest on top.

66 new educators join PSS this school year

» Classroom teachers now over 600

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Public School System has successfully hired 66 new teachers for school year 2010-2011, resulting in now over 600 classroom teachers in 20 public schools on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan told *Saipan Tribune* Friday that the human resource team recruited these newly hired educators between July and September.

Regular classes opened in public schools on Sept. 7, with an estimated 10,000-plus students currently enrolled in all campuses.

It was learned that PSS closed last school year with about 560 classroom teachers.

The successful recruitment of additional educators is attributed to the stimulus money that was directly provided schools.

The new funding allowed PSS to restore 105 teachers and counselor positions that were cut in 2006 due to limited appropriation from the local government.

PSS was allocated just $34 million last fiscal year for its personnel and operations. The amount further dropped to $30 million this fiscal year.

The federal government—through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act—appropriated $44 million in financial assistance to the CNMI. Of that amount, $34 million went to education.

During Friday's Board of Education meeting, Sablan admitted that more FTEs are needed for special education programs such as language pathologists, speech pathologists, physical therapists and other hard-to-fill posts.

As of last month, 77 percent of classroom teachers are deemed highly qualified, having met all three requirements: a degree, valid teaching certificates, and passing the Praxis tests.

Increased enrollment

Sablan has yet to say if they see an increase or decrease in this year's enrollment.

The commissioner is expected to meet with school principals Friday noon to discuss each school's preliminary data for the new school year.

Initial data from some large schools on Saipan such as Marianas High School, Hopwood Junior High, and Saipan Southern High School indicate an increase in their students' population.

MHS' new principal, Craig Garrison, said they registered 1,396 students last week—from last school year's less than 1,200.

SSHS acting principal Jesse M. Tudela also adjusted his school's maximum enrollment cap of 850 to 911 last week.

Hopwood Junior High School, according to principal Jonas Barcinas, has 1,335 students, up from last year's 1,100 enrollees.

Minimal increases in enrollment numbers were also noted in some schools such as Kagman High School and San Vicente Elementary.

Sablan refused to comment when asked how PSS plans to address this classroom shortage, saying she has yet to meet with the schools on this particular issue.

Sablan said Friday that, based on the initial assessment of school administrators and program managers in all schools, PSS had a very successful and smooth opening of classes last week.

She cited the proper delivery of services to schoolchildren such as breakfast and lunch meals and bus transportations.

tijuana
MEXICAN RESTAURANT
Enjoy Mexican cuisines served just the way you like it at the only Mexican restaurant around the block.
Mexican bestsellers prepared expertly by chief cook Peter Barol.
❖ Carnitas
Roasted boneless pork ribs marinated in secret spices served with Guacamole and Chile dressing.
❖ Tinga Poblana
A delectably rich chicken dish cooked in white onion, garlic cloves, Mexican chorizo, chopped tomatoes, dried oregano, chipotle and avocado.
❖ Seafood Tostada
Specially seasoned mixed seafood dish propped on crispy corn tortillas.
Also enjoy other favourite Mexican dishes such as tacos and quesadillas.
Enjoy our ala carte LUNCH from 11am to 2pm and DINNER from 6pm to 10pm.
We also accept any special occasion.
Call for more information
Every Mon & Sat
Dart Game
BLIND DRAW
Start at 8:00 p.m.
Free one beer for every players.
$5.00 entrance
$5 entrance fees will be used for cash prize for the winnners
Happy hour prices everyday: 6pm to 8pm
Special Margarita for only $3.75
Bud light/Budwiser Can only $1.50
Tequila shot $3.00
FREE chaser
Come to Tijuana Mexican Restaurant and enjoy our impeccably prepared Mexican cuisines.
Located on the ground floor of Saipan Gold Beach Hotel along Beach Road. For information or reservations, call 235-4466 or 285-4466.

Triple J Motors
Summer
SPECIALS
BUMPER-TO-BUMPER
Maintenance Service
• Oil Change using Castrol GTX, including new oil filter
• Clean brake system, check steering & suspension
• Inspect and rotate tires
• Check fuel tank, lines, hoses and connections, plus add Johnson's Fuel-Injector Cleaner
• Inspect front and rear axle boots and joints
• Adjust belts
• Inspect emission control
• Clean air filter
• Test battery & clean terminals - Charge if necessary
• Check underbody for damage, rust or corrosion
• Perform minor chasis lubrication and topping of low fluids
Starting at
$99.95*
Castrol
*4 cylinder vehicles only. 6+ cylinder vehicles & above starting at $109.95. Disposal fee not included and some restrictions apply. Service recommended every 6 months or 6,000 miles. Keep your brakes and engine oil clean! Offer good for a limited time only.
Plus, receive a FREE
Exterior Car Wash & Interior Vacuum
and
Turtle Wax 10.4oz F21 Super Protectant
Customers First
TRIPLE J MOTORS PARTS & SERVICE
Located on Beach Road, Chalan LauLau
Open Mon-Fri: 7:30am to 5:30pm • Sat: 7:30am to 5:00pm
Tel: 234-7133/3051 ext 25/27 • Fax: 234-3052
Email:
serviceadvisor@triplejsaipan.com
rsteele@triplejsaipan.com
www.carssaipan.com

2 convenient locations to better serve you!
HARDT EYE CLINIC
Beach Road Clinic
next to Megabyte, Beach Road, Garapan
235-2030
HARDT EYE CLINIC
Kagman Clinic
Kagman III, next to Kagman Postal and Kevin's Video
256-2020
HARDT EYE CLINIC
DAVID HARDT, O.D. | DON HARDT, O.D.
Using advanced technology combined with old-fashioned caring to provide unhurried and understandable exams.
Insurance plans and all major credit cards are gladly accepted

Kilili: $8M school funding to cover 2.5 pay periods

WASHINGTON, D.C.—U.S. Rep. Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan announced yesterday that Secretary of Education Arne Duncan has signed off on $8 million in emergency jobs funding for the Northern Mariana Islands Public School System. PSS plans to use the funding, part of an emergency package passed by Congress in August, to cover the upcoming 2.5 pay periods.

"We in Congress provided this emergency funding because school systems all around the country are facing the same budget shortfalls that PSS faces here in the Northern Marianas," Sablan explained. "The money will keep teachers on the job, rather then having them fired or furloughed.

"More importantly, this $8 million in emergency funding from Congress will help ensure that our children's education—and their long-term ability to prosper and succeed in life—is not shortchanged because of short-term, local budget problems."

Sablan's office has been working with PSS officials over the last several weeks to make sure there would be no delay in awarding the funds.

"PSS asked their congressional office to keep on top of their application, and we have been in contact with the Department of Education on a daily basis," Sablan recounted. "We got word Thursday that the application was approved, and passed along the good news, so it would be in the Commissioner's e-mail in-box first thing Friday morning."

Sablan

Under terms of the Education Jobs and Medicaid Assistance Act, 98 percent of the money must be spent for salaries of those directly involved in education.

Teachers, nurses, librarians, cafeteria workers, counselors, bus drivers, maintenance people, and principals working in our elementary and secondary schools will have their salaries paid over a five week period in September and October with the emergency funding. Only 2 percent may be used for administrative purposes.

Another restriction is maintenance of effort requirement. The CNMI government has agreed not to cut back on funding for K-12 and post-secondary education. The Commonwealth must maintain the same dollar levels or the same 26.689 percent of the local budget for education as in previous years. If it does not, the $8 million will have to be paid back to the federal treasury.

Kilili: Congress must step in

Sablan was one of 21 original co-sponsors of the Local Jobs for America Act, which was the basis of the $8 million for PSS. The bill was introduced in March and—after much give-and-take among the House, the Senate, and the White House—became the Education Jobs and Medicaid Assistance Act.

"We understand what a stressful situation the budget shortfalls are for the employees of PSS and schools around the country. It is very difficult to teach effectively, when you are worried about your job and your paycheck.

"And we know that each school day is important to a student's intellectual development. This $8 million in emergency funding helps ensure the school year is uninterrupted, so students can keep building on what they have already learned," he explained.

"When teachers face layoffs, when our children are about to be robbed of their education," said Sablan, "I believe Congress must step in."

PSS wins Duncan's commendation

Sablan also had words of praise for the Public School System, which submitted its application early and won approval in half the time that Secretary Duncan had set for his department's response.

"My thanks go to the staff at PSS, especially Commissioner Rita Sablan and Federal Programs Officer Tim Thornburgh, for getting the application for this funding in a full week before the deadline," said Sablan. "This enabled the Department of Education to review it and release the funding ahead of schedule."

In making the award, Duncan, too, praised PSS, saying, "there is a huge sense of urgency to get these funds out the door. I commend the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for being one of the first to submit their application," the secretary said.

"PSS has built up the capacity and the trust that is needed to work effectively with federal agencies," said Sablan. "And that makes a tremendous difference.

"When there is that kind of mutual respect and confidence, everything goes so much more smoothly. And ultimately that is incredibly beneficial to the people of the Northern Mariana Islands.

"It's a model for CNMI-federal relations."

$768,000 for Medicaid included

In addition to the emergency jobs funding for PSS the Education Jobs and Medicaid Assistance Act provides six months of bridge funding for CNMI Medicaid, approximately $768,000.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act raised Medicaid funding by $1.5 million, but that increase expires on Dec. 31.

The new health care reform law also raises Medicaid funding for the Commonwealth, but does not begin until July 1, 2011. In the following 10 years the CNMI is eligible for $158 million in Medicaid assistance, three times what it would have received without the health care reform legislation passed by the Democratic Congress.

Other aspects of health reform have already started in the Commonwealth. Consumer protections—no limits on lifetime benefits, no cut-off of insurance because of illness, no difference in premiums for men and women, the ability to keep children on parental health insurance policies until age 26—now apply in the Northern Marianas just as in the rest of the United States.

And last week Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius announced the availability of a $1 million grant to the CNMI Insurance Commissioner to monitor insurance premiums for excessive increases. The CNMI has until Oct. 1 to apply for the $1 million. ***(PR)***

AT THE HEALTH FAIR HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Mindy Goltia, right, a visiting dental hygienist at Seventh-Day Adventist Clinic in Guam, gets the blood pressure of Malinda John, left, 16, during a free health fair sponsored by the Saipan and Guam SDA Clinics and the Pacific Island Youth for Christ at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe on Sept. 6, 2010. Volunteer physicians, dentists, dental hygienists, nurses and youth provided free health services to community members, including getting their blood pressure, blood sugar and body mass index. The volunteers also provided free consultations and health information handouts.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
MVA-RFP-10-2302
MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

For: Representation, Promotion and Public Relations Services for the Korea Market

Closing Date: September 30, 2010 Time: 3:00 p.m.

Submit sealed proposals to: The Division of Procurement & Supply
P.O. Box 10008. Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the scope of work and application for local preference at the Marianas Visitors Authority office between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except holidays or by visiting the MVA website at www.mymarianas.com.

/s/ HERMAN SABLAN
Director, P&S

/s/ PERRY P. TENORIO
Managing Director

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
INVITATION TO BID
ITB10-RDLNR-155

SUBMISSION: OCTOBER 13, 2010 • TIME: 1:00 P.M.

"PURCHASE OF ONE (1) UTILITY TRACTOR - CIF ROTA FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCES, ROTA BRANCH"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS ITB IS DUE ON **SEPTEMBER 30, 2010, CLOSE OF BUSINESS** AND SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO **MR. JOEY ANTHONY QUITUGUA**, RESIDENT DIRECTOR AT TEL (670) 532-9494/5 OR BY FAX TO (670) 532-0520 OR E-MAIL TO **dlnr@pticom.com.**

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO US CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE BID IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.

/s/ **MELCHOR A. MENDIOLA**
MAYOR OF ROTA

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
DIRECTOR, P&S

/s/ **JOEY ANTHONY QUITUGUA**
RESIDENT DIRECTOR
DLNR, ROTA

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
INVITATION TO BID
ITB10-DPW/TSD-166

SUBMISSION DATE: OCTOBER 13, 2010 • TIME: 11:00 A.M.

"OFFICE SPACE LEASE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS - TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION, SAIPAN"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

INTERESTED BIDDERS SHOULD SUBMIT ALL QUESTIONS OR REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION IN WRITTING NO LATER THAN **CLOSE OF BUSINESS, SEPTEMBER 30, 2010.**

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH; LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/s/ **MARTIN C. SABLAN**
SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
DIRECTOR, P&S

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
MVA-RFP-10-2304
MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

For: Happy Children In Paradise Campaign Saipan-da Backpacks

Closing Date: September 14, 2010 Time: 3:00 p.m.

Submit sealed proposals to: The Division of Procurement & Supply
P.O. Box 10008, Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the scope of work and application for local preference at the **Marianas Visitors Authority** office between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except holidays or by emailing the **MVA** at mva@mymarianas.com.

/s/ HERMAN SABLAN
Director, P&S

/s/ PERRY P. TENORIO
Managing Director

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP10-DOC-149

SUBMISSION: OCTOBER 12, 2010 • TIME: 2:00 P.M.

"PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A MIMC-VIDEO TELECONFERENCE SYSTEM EQUIPMENT FOR THE CNMI MILITARY INTEGRATION MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE"

THE RFP PACKAGE MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWERBASE, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO MR. TOM LINDEN, MIMC COORDINATOR AT **cnmi.mimc@commerce.gov.mp** NO LATER THAN 4:30 PM., LOCAL TIME, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2010.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE IT IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/s/ MICHAEL J. ADA
Secretary of Commerce

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
INVITATION TO BID
ITB10-DPW/BSC-165

SUBMISSION DATE: OCTOBER 13, 2010 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"OFFICE SPACE LEASE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS - BUILDING SAFETY CODE DIVISION, SAIPAN"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

INTERESTED BIDDERS SHOULD SUBMIT ALL QUESTIONS OR REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION IN WRITTING NO LATER THAN **CLOSE OF BUSINESS, SEPTEMBER 30, 2010.**

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO US CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE BID IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED..

/s/ **MARTIN C. SABLAN**
SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
DIRECTOR, P&S

NMC CITES OPPOSITION TO THREE LEGISLATION:

'House bills place NMC accreditation in serious jeopardy'

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Northern Marianas College officials are strongly opposed to three bills pending at the Legislature that they believe will place the college's continued accreditation in serious jeopardy.

Interim president Lorraine T. Cabrera, in an Aug. 31, 2010, letter, pleaded with both House Speaker Froilan C. Tenorio and Senate President Paul Manglona not to support House Resolution 17-17, House Bill 17-59, and House Bill 17-93 because doing so would likely result in continued sanctions against the college.

NMC has been on show-cause status since June 30, 2010. The Western Association of Schools and Colleges had 10 concerns that prompted it to put the college under severe sanction.

Cabrera said that House Resolution 17-17 is counterproductive to NMC's ongoing efforts to address the accreditation concerns.

That resolution attacks the Accrediting Commission of Community and Junior Colleges and directly appeals to the U.S. Department of Education and the WASC executive director to conduct an investigation into the sanction placed on NMC.

Cabrera cited the resolution's inflammatory language against the accrediting commission, the serious charges it raises against ACCJC, and its attempt to bypass the commission procedures and policies by directly addressing the USDOE.

In H.B. 17-59, which raise the minimum educational eligibility requirements for appointment to the NMC Board of Regents, Cabrera said its enactment could undermine NMC's constitutionally mandated mission and will jeopardize accreditation.

"House Bill 17-59's attempt to restrict the makeup of the board could exclude representation of the interests of the adult and continuing education of students, would undermine the Board of Regents' ability to fulfill NMC's mission, and would undoubtedly jeopardize NMC's accreditation," said Cabrera.

House Bill 17-93, which places approval of NMC business under the Office of the Attorney General, is the most serious infringement yet on NMC's autonomy, Cabrera said.

This bill aims to put all NMC expenditure authority under the purview of the Finance Department and ultimately the governor.

If this enacted into law, Cabrera said this would usurp NMC's autonomy in several ways and would almost undoubtedly lead to loss of accreditation.

Cabrera pointed out that the ACCJC had already warned the Legislature about such infringement in the past, as shown in WASC president Dr. Barbara Beno letter dated August 2006.

Cabrera also cited the ACCJC Eligibility Requirement 3, which states that the governing board should be "an independent policy-making board."

"Legislative actions [such as the three legislation] especially HB 17-93, do nothing to help NMC address the commission's concerns and, in fact, will only make it more difficult for NMC to respond to these concerns and maintain accreditation," she said.

NMC has until Oct. 15 this year to address all accreditation issues.

Late vice speaker's grandchildren want Hawaii attorney sanctioned

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The four grandchildren of late Vice Speaker Jesus P. Mafnas want a Hawaii attorney sanctioned for allegedly failing to provide complete documents and responsive answers to their questions in connection with their lawsuit against their former lawyers.

William R. Satterberg Jr. and Matthew T. Gregory, counsels for the Mafnas' grandchildren, asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to sanction Allen K. Williams and order him to pay them expenses, including attorney's fees, incurred in bringing the motion.

Satterberg and Gregory want the court to find Williams' objections to their interrogatories and request for production of documents to be "improper objections, unreasonable, and ambiguous."

They want the Hawaii lawyer to be compelled to produce complete copies of each document and record they had requested.

Williams' counsel, Robert O'Connor, stated in a Sept. 7, 2010, letter to Sattersberg that he is willing to meet and confer to see if their differences can be worked out.

O'Connor cited some ambiguities in the requests such as relating to other cases in which Williams has represented minors.

"For example, your demand for information regarding all minors that Mr. Williams has represented since 1990—a 20-year time span—is so broad as to time I can only conclude its very intent was to harass, oppress, and cause undue burden to Mr. Williams," said O'Connor.

He said Williams is no longer with the Cronin Fried law firm, and does not have any records of the cases he handled during his time there.

In their motion to compel and impose sanctions, Satterberg and Gregory said Williams has opted to impede the discovery process with a raft of frivolous, ambiguous and or inappropriate objections.

"Moreover, because Williams did not identify with specificity any of the so-called privileged items he is withholding, plaintiffs remain completely blindfolded by Williams' non-disclosures," Satterberg and Gregory said.

Jesus Mafnas Sr. was killed in 1995 in a crash while aboard an aircraft being piloted by DHL co-founder Larry Lee Hillblom. The then minor plaintiffs pursued a wrongful death lawsuit in federal court against the Hillblom estate.

Perez, Williams, and the Cronin law firm acted as counsels for several plaintiffs consisting of Jesus Mafnas Sr.'s then minor grandchildren and other parties.

Jess Mafnas, Franklin Mafnas, Britney Mafnas, and Blas Mafnas Jr. filed the lawsuit because they allegedly failed to get anything from the $1.9 million settlement in a previous lawsuit against the Hillblom estate.

The plaintiffs sued Guam-based attorney Peter F. Perez, the Hawaii-based law firm of Cronin, Friend, Sekiya, Kekina, and Fairbanks, and Hawaii attorney Williams.

Perez settled the case for $70,000 last month.

Four plead not guilty in Tonga ferry sinking trial

MELBOURNE, Australia (Radio Australia/PIR)—Four men have pleaded not guilty to manslaughter over the sinking of the *Princess Ashika* ferry in Tonga last year.

A total of 74 people died when the ferry went down during an overnight voyage from the capital Nuku'alofa to an outer island in August last year.

At a directions hearing in the Supreme Court, the Shipping Corporation of Polynesia's managing director, John Jonesse, as well as the ferry captain, first mate and a senior public servant pleaded not guilty.

Matangi Tonga reports that Captain Makahokovalu Tuputupu and the Shipping Corporation of Polynesia has been charged with over 10 counts each. John Jonesse was charged with eight counts.

The matter has been adjourned to Oct. 8, when a trial date is expected to be set.

The *Princess Ashika* was built in the early 1970s and was on its fourth voyage in Tonga when it sank.

An inquiry into the tragedy blamed authorities for buying an unsafe vessel and for allowing it to sail.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Rehabilitation Council
PO Box 501521 Saipan, MP 96950, TEL.: (670) 322-6537 FAX: (670) 322-6536
TTY (670) 322-6449 EMAIL: nmidir@ovrgov.net

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMCss 9910, the State Rehabilitation Council will hold its FY'10 4th General Membership on Wednesday, September 15, 2010 at the Azucena I, Fiesta Resort and Spa at 8:30am-2:00pm. Interested individuals are welcome to attend.

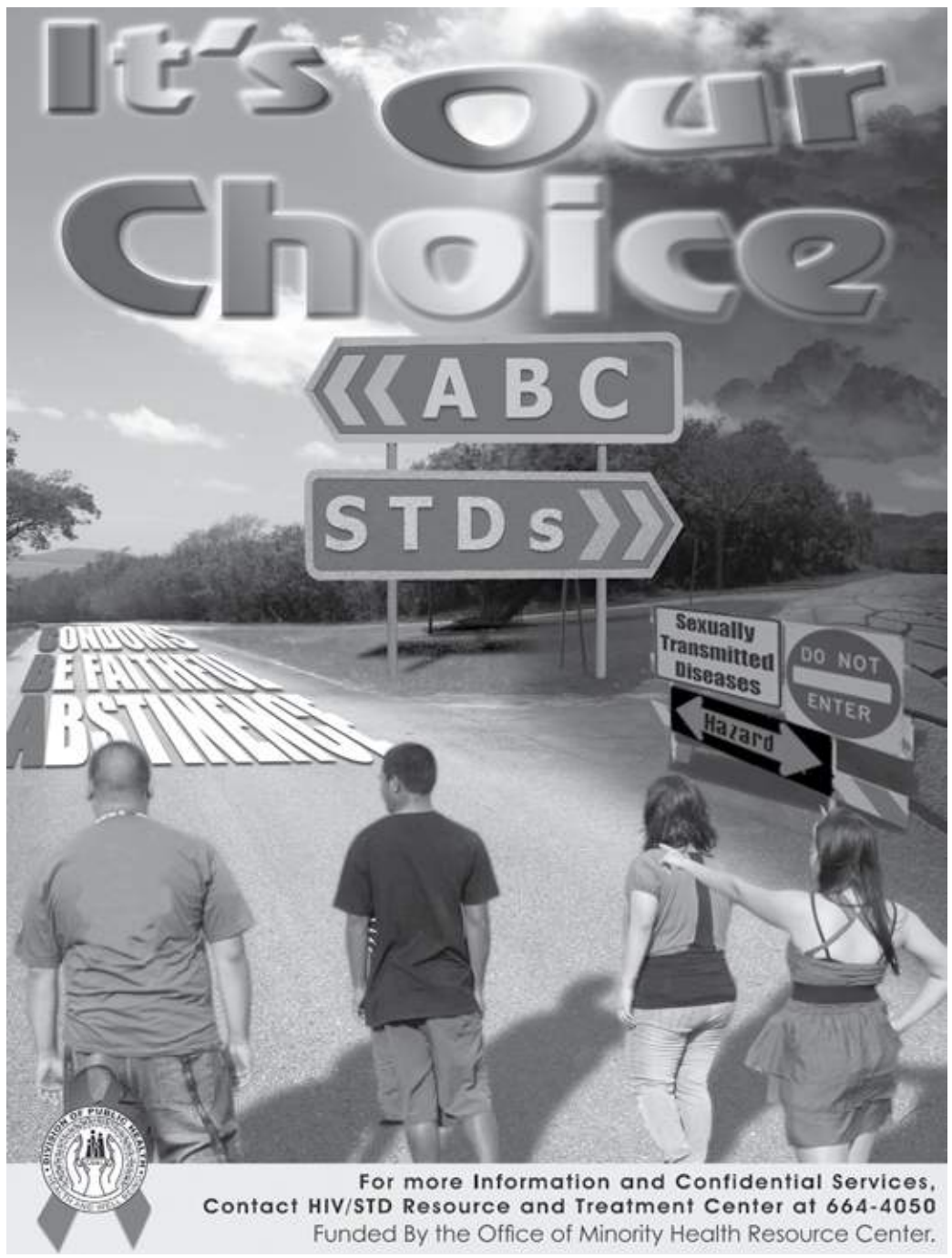
AGENDA

I. Meeting Call to Order
II. Roll Call
III. Review and adoption of Agenda
IV. Welcome and recognition of new appointed members
V. Introduction of Guest from Washington State, DSB
VI. Review and adoption of the FY'10 3rd Meeting Minutes (08/20/10)
VII. Reports
a. OVR Director
b. SRC Chair
VIII. Election of Officers
IX. Consumer Forum
X. Announcements
XI. Adjournment

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend the meeting but require accommodations such as large print or sign language interpreters, are asked to call 322-6537 (voice) or 322-6449 (TTY). Please contact Elvira Seman two days in advance for necessary arrangements.

/s/ Jesus M. Elameto
CHAIRMAN

Publication of this notice is paid for by federal funds made possible by the United States Department of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS).



Japan wary of China military, urges closer US ties

By MALCOLM FOSTER
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

TOKYO (AP)—Japan's Defense Ministry stressed the importance of U.S. military forces in Japan and cast a wary eye on China's military expansion in an annual report Friday, as diplomatic tensions with China rose following a collision near disputed islands.

The annual defense policy report also said a group of South Korean-controlled islands, called Dokdo in Korean and Takeshima in Japanese, were an "integral" part of Japanese territory—prompting protesters in South Korea's capital to try to burn a Japanese flag in a show of anger.

The report's release comes amid a growing diplomatic dispute between Japan and China. Beijing has warned Tokyo that bilateral ties could be damaged over the arrest of a Chinese fishing boat captain whose ship collided with two Japanese patrol vessels Tuesday near disputed islands in the East China Sea.

China has increased its activity in Japanese waters to defend its territory, protect its maritime interests and deter Taiwanese independence, the defense report said.

Highlighting China's increased military spending, it said Beijing's lack of openness in its defense policies and military activities were "a matter of concern for the region and the international community, including Japan, which should require prudent analysis."

It said China has not disclosed specific information about its weapons, procurement goals, details of major units and its national defense budget.

China has released defense reports every two years since 1998 but has not yet achieved the level of transparency expected for "a responsible major power in the international society," it said.

China also is developing the technology needed for possessing its own aircraft carrier, it said.

The report highlighted the importance of American forces based in Japan under a security pact that marks its 50th anniversary this year, saying they act as a deterrence that contributes to Japan's defense as well as regional security.

In particular, having U.S. forces on the southern Japanese island of Okinawa offers a strategic advantage because of its geographic location, allowing them to respond more quickly to emergencies in East Asia than if they were based in Hawaii, Guam or the U.S. mainland, it said.

However, many residents of the island of Okinawa, which hosts three-quarters of all U.S. military facilities in Japan, want the bases moved off the island.

Under a 2006 agreement to reorganize the 47,000 U.S. troops in Japan, Washington is to move 8,000 Marines from Okinawa to the U.S. territory of Guam and relocate U.S. Marine Air Station Futenma, set in the middle of a city, to a less crowded part of the island by 2014.

The report said that moving Futenma out of Okinawa—as proposed by former Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama—would hinder the Marines' response capabilities, and it was "unavoidable" to keep the base's operations on the island.

Senior US diplomat confident Japan base will stay

GENEVA (AP)—U.S. Deputy Secretary of State James Steinberg says Washington would prefer to keep its military base on the southern Japanese island of Okinawa despite local opposition.

Steinberg says he is confident the day-to-day political debate on moving the base won't trump an overriding commitment in Japan to host the U.S. military.

He told an international security conference in Geneva on Saturday that serious security issues remain in East Asia and the U.S. would "rather stay where we are."

Under a 2006 agreement, Washington will move 8,000 Marines from Okinawa to the U.S. territory of Guam and relocate an air base from the middle of a city to a less crowded part of the island by 2014.

Thousands to be relocated for Solomons gold mine

» Gold-Ridge to spend $64 million reopening mine

MELBOURNE, Australia (Radio Australia/PIR)—Solomon Islands' Gold Ridge mine is on track to pour its first gold in March 2011. The mine is expected to be a major foreign exchange earner and is an important part of the Solomon Islands government's strategy for economic recovery after the ethnic violence earlier this decade.

Relocation of thousands of people living on the Gold Ridge mine site has begun.

More than 300 houses will be built for landowners, 90 of which are expected to be completed by the end of this year.

Allied Gold's Executive Chairman, Mark Caruso, says the first group of 130 gold panners has now been resettled 10 kilometers away, at Turarana.

Allied Gold has already spent 50 million Australian dollars [US$45.8 million] on rebuilding the Gold ridge mine and expects to spend another AU$70 million [US$64.1 million] before the end of the year.

Caruso noted that they employ about 500 people on the site, of which approximately 375 are locals. "So we're very comfortable with how that sort of labor buildup and development is working with the local workforce."

He says "our main issue clearly is to ensure that due process that allows our project, mining to develop in the Solomon Islands is both streamlined and developed to best world standards. And clearly mining is not a significant proponent or part of the economy at the moment, but clearly I think if we can demonstrate that this project can get off the ground smoothly with appropriate government support, which has been forthcoming to date from the previous Sikua government, then I think it will keep the country in good stead."

BUDGET OVERSIGHT HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

From left, Northern Marianas College director of institutional effectiveness and accreditation liaison officer Galvin Deleon Guerrero, NMC acting interim president Barbara Merfalen, Board of Regents chair Janet H. King, and NMC chief financial and administrative officer Henry Hofschneider during a Senate session at Tinian Elementary School on Sept. 3, 2010, to tackle the Fiscal Year 2011 budget bill. The Senate passed the budget measure on an 8-0 vote.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Teen rockers audition!

The organization "Thespians of the Western Pacific Islands" is holding auditions for high school students who are interested in playing the music for the rock 'n roll musical comedy, *Zombie Prom*. The TWPI hopes to stage the show around Halloween or in November. This is an opportunity for students to rehearse with musical drama students and play a full Broadway-style show in production (three presentations of the show).

Students can pick up the audition sheet music at MHS, Room D 101, tomorrow, Sept. 14, 2010, between 4pm and 6pm. Musician auditions will be held at the same place on Thursday, Sept. 16, 2010, from 6pm to 8pm. Students can audition individually or as a band (with their band members). ***(PR)***

Int'l Coastal Cleanup this month

Join the entire Commonwealth for the 25th annual International Coastal Cleanup on Sept. 24, Friday, or Sept. 25, Saturday. To sign-up for the event, complete the sign-up sheet and fax it to Rachel Zuercher, Coastal Resources Management, at 664-8315. For more information, call 664-8305 or email - rachel.zuercher@crm.gov.mp. ***(PR)***

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Sept. 13, 1999

Democratic Party bares Saipan lineup

Democratic Party candidates and supporters will march down to the Board of Elections office in Garapan on Wednesday to file the nominating petitions for the House of Representatives candidates for the Nov. 6 mid-term elections. "We're expecting a big number of supporters to join the march. We want to show the board that we support free choice," said Carlos S. Camacho, president of the Democratic Party. Camacho said he believes the Democrat lineup will sweep the elections and take over the House of Representatives which is currently dominated by Republicans.

DPL board clears way for Tinian airport expansion

The Division of Public Lands has approved a conditional conveyance of certain U.S. military land to the Commonwealth Ports Authority for the planned expansion of West Tinian Airport. According to CPA, more than 5.2 million square meters of land to given to CPA will include areas on which the existing West Tinian Airport terminal and runway are now situated and the additional land needed for the new runway project. The ports authority had requested from DPL the conveyance of land as it anticipates the return of a certain parcel of land to the CNMI for the U.S. military. In return, CPA has agreed to grant the use of the airport and landing rights to the U.S. military.

Sept. 13, 2000

US health officials to visit Saipan

U.S. public health officials will be arriving on Saipan to look into the possibility of converting the Tanapag Health Clinic into an urgent care facility that will respond to the emergency needs of the village residents. The Tanapag Clinic was established last May primarily for the health evaluation of residents in the village in connection with polychlorinated biphenyl contamination. However, Public Health Secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez said the U.S. 330 grant is being tapped to provide money for operations, personnel and facility equipment of Tanapag Clinic. Four heads of the various federal agencies will be coming on Saipan to assess the needs of Tanapag this month. The group will also look at the possibility of expanding the current Kagman Clinic housed at Kagman Community Center.

BOE's upgrade of system continues

The Board of Elections continues efforts to maintain and improve elections and election activities, including voter registration and registration data. Its latest project includes improvements to voter registration and voter registration data so as to streamline process. To accomplish this, it was necessary to create a new voter registration module at the Department of Finance's main computer system. This is just about complete. Following this, there will be a need to transfer voter registration from the present module to the new one. This requires that registration affidavits will be individually transferred. All 14,334 of them.

Sept. 13, 2001

New OPM chief named soon

In as little as two weeks from now, the Civil Service Commission may soon announce a new head for the Office of Personnel Management. Acting OPM chief Norbert Sablan said the possibility is high that in the next two weeks, the CSC may soon announce its choice for the new OPM chief. "I am now working on preparing the list of individuals who are being considered for the post and I will soon submit this list to the commission," said Sablan. He said that nine persons applied for the position of OPM chief and they have already narrowed down the qualified applicants to five.

Fractured NMI families linked to suicide cases

The increasing number of suicide incidents in the Northern Marianas is brought about by fractured families, societies and culture, which pressure the youth to take responsibilities that are a lot bigger than them. In a pastoral letter issued yesterday by the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa, Bishop Tomas A. Camacho noted that the local community sees an alarming trend in suicide cases involving youths because their families failed to give them spiritual guidance. "If we do not hear the call to examine this problem in depth and in prayer, we can expect more to come. There are no easy solutions since the causes are spiritual, psychological, societal, and cultural. No individual or group can carry the burden alone," said Bishop Camacho.

Pacific students disadvantaged in workplace—expert

» Noted educator says curriculum not tuned to trades

MELBOURNE, Australia (Radio Australia/PIR)—Pacific children are being disadvantaged in the global workplace because of the way they are taught at school, according to a leading education expert in Fiji.

Joseph Veramu from Fiji's Education Department says countries like Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea and Fiji are too focused on formal education.

Although the number attending school is on the increase, he says that many are failing and dropping out because the current system doesn't prepare them for the real world.

Veramu says more non-formal education options, like entrepreneurial courses or trade apprenticeships, need to be introduced to give more people a chance at succeeding at home or abroad.

"In the Pacific, we still have this hangover about cultural issues and I see this is happening even to those workers who come to Australia or even New Zealand, that they still have this cultural inequity in them," he said. "They need to overcome them because we get there we really need to work for productivity and ensure that the values that we have, we are able to compete in the global marketplace."

According to Amazon.com, Veramu is the author of *Growing Up in Fiji,* a social commentary on Fijian child rearing practices; *The Black Messiah*, a collection of short stories; and *Let's Do it Our Way*, a book about education and development. He has also written a children's story-book, *The Shark*, and is editor of two collections of myths and legends.

Tahiti's Bora Bora Resort to close amid downturn

» Some 106 employees to lose jobs

PAPEÉTE, Tahiti (Tahitipresse/PIR)—In Tahiti, the Bora Bora Lagoon Resort will soon close and more than 100 employees will be laid off, according to various media reports.

Bora Bora Lagoon Resort executives told employees about the hotel closure during a meeting Tuesday, according to the daily newspaper *Les Nouvelles de Tahiti.*

Another newspaper, *La Dépêche de Tahiti*, had also announced the hotel closure Saturday.

Details of a plan to lay off a total of 106 employees have yet to be released, however.

The Bora Bora Lagoon Resort had been hit hard by tropical cyclone Oli last February.

Insurance companies reportedly only agreed to pay a small part of damages.

The resort did not have great occupancy rates before cyclone Oli either and the number of visitors coming to French Polynesia has been going down for many months now.

This announcement is another bad news for French Polynesia's ailing tourism industry.

It comes after the Hilton Tahiti closure five months ago. More than 100 employees lost their jobs when the hotel closed March 31.

Bora Bora is located about 230 kilometers northwest of Papeete; it is an island in the Leeward group of the Society Islands of French Polynesia. The population is at approximately 9,000 people.

RNC CHAIR VISITS SAIPAN
Republican National Committee chair Michael Steele watches the cultural dance performances at former governor Juan N. Babauta's post-birthday fundraiser at the Garapan Central Park Wednesday night.
HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Hawaiian council supports Pacific non-profit groups

TUMON, Guam—Representatives from the Hawaii nonprofit, Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement, traveled to Guam this month to support the convening of over 150 nongovernmental organizations and Pacific Islander leaders.

On Aug. 26 and 27, founders of Payu-Ta, Inc., Guam's umbrella organization of nonprofits, convened its first Micronesian Nonprofit Congress on the island of Guam. Leaders from Saipan, Palau, Chuuk, Tahiti, Tonga, the Marianas Islands and other island nations attended the convening to collaborate and work on priorities.

"We are humbled to have been invited to share in the historic gathering of leaders from all across Micronesia," Robin Puanani Danner, CNHA president and CEO, told the participants. "It is like a wave from Micronesia that is gaining in momentum and adding to the waves of our people in Polynesia to move an agenda for all Pacific Island peoples."

Danner encouraged attendees to continue lifting up what is working in their communities, and to celebrate and support their community leaders and practitioners.

Organizers in Guam, like Sarah Thomas-Nededog and Frank Rabon, have been past attendees to CNHA's Annual Native Hawaiian Convention, and had participated in policy forum discussions and engaged with policy makers, grant funders and business executives.

"The people of Guam and the Micronesian region are taking hold of their own destiny, and joining together to shape a future for themselves," Danner said. "The work being done in Guam, and the solutions being implemented are very similar to our experiences in Hawaii. The very small part we've had the privilege to play, supporting the leaders here in the South Pacific, is very much what the Pacific region has always been about—people helping people. Just as others have helped us, we want to pass on the strength and well wishes to others serving community."

While in Guam, CNHA visited a language immersion school, a teen shelter, and government offices such as the Department of Chamorro Affairs.

Major topics discussed at the convening included the proposed military buildup that would bring 8,000 Marines and their families to Guam, the need for infrastructure resources to Guam, and the demographic changes occurring in all major Pacific island areas.

"It was awe-inspiring to come back after five years and visit with community leaders we worked with to train and assist in developing strategic plans and funding applications," said Jade Danner, CNHA vice president and CEO of its subsidiary enterprise, Hawaiian Homestead Technology. "The incredible energy and determination of the leaders here is a testament to a culture that values the collective well-being of all in their villages."

Danner spoke to the participants on sustainability strategies, including the notion of social enterprise operations that engage in commerce to diversify revenue streams to the social justice missions of nonprofit parent corporations. She shared the experience of Hawaiian Homestead Technology, a for-profit company wholly owned by CNHA, saying, "Grants are great, contracts are better, and self-generating revenue is best."

Back in Hawaii, CNHA will be hosting dozens of leaders from the South Pacific at its 9th Annual Native Hawaiian convention during its special Pacific Islanders Policy Forum scheduled for Oct. 14, 2010.

The Forum will take place in partnership with the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and will feature powerful dialogue with federal officials from the White House, the Department of the Interior, Housing and Urban Development, Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

For more information on the Pacific Islanders Policy Forum or the 9th Annual Native Hawaiian Convention, contact CNHA at (808) 596.8155 or via e-mail at info@hawaiiancouncil.org. Online registration is available at www.hawaiiancouncil.org.

CNHA is a national network of Native Hawaiian Organizations, providing assistance in accessing capital and technical resources, and is a policy voice on issues important to Native Hawaiian communities. Its mission is to enhance the well-being of Hawaii through the cultural, economic, and community development of Native Hawaiians.

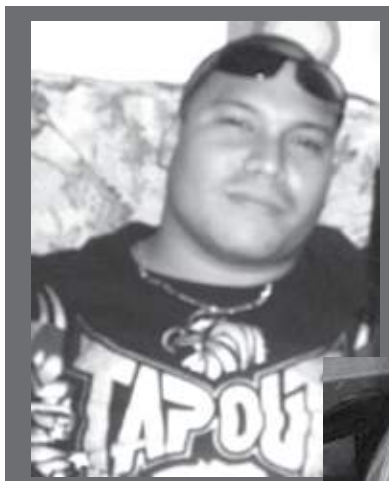
For more information about CNHA, contact 808.596.8155, toll-free at 1.800.709.2642, by e-mail at info@hawaiiancouncil.org, or visit its website at www.hawaiiancouncil.org. ***(PR)***

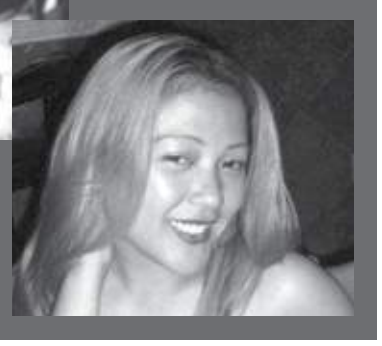
Adult Basic Education fall 2010 calendar

The Northern Marianas College's Adult Basic Education program, a program under the Division of Community Programs and Services (COMPASS), has announced the following academic dates for the Fall 2010 Semester:

- Registration for returning students: Sept 13-14, 10am - 6pm, ABE
- Registration for new students: Sept 15-16, 10am - 6pm, ABE
- Late Registration: Sept 17, 9am - 4pm, ABE; Sept 21-23, 9am - 4pm, ABE
- Student orientation: Sept 22, 5pm - 6:30pm, TBA
- Add/drop for students: Sept 24, 8am - 5pm, ABE; Sept 27-30, 8am - 5pm, ABE; Oct 1, 8am - 5pm, ABE
- First day of instruction:
  TTh Classes: Sept 23, 2010
  MWF Classes: Sept 24, 2010
  Sat. Classes: Sept 25, 2010
  Sun. Classes: Sept 26, 2010
- Last day of instruction: Dec 18, 2010

For more information, log on to www.nmcnet.edu or contact the ABE Office at 234-5498 Ext. 1723 or 1724. ***(NMC)***





BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT
Belated happy birthday Daddy! We love you, much blessings and may you have many more birthday's to come! Greetings come from Dylen, Tommy and Tho'leyan.

Happy birthday greetings go out to Ella Babauta, who is celebrating her special day today, Sept. 13th. Greetings coming from your SEA family.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Vanuatu students to attend Chinese universities

PORT VILA, Vanuatu (Vanuatu Daily Post/PIR)—Beijing-based Ambassador to China Willie Jimmy Tapangararua has thanked the Chinese government for offering eight Vanuatu students Chinese government scholarships in Chinese universities in different fields of profession throughout China.

The students are Leo Sarana, at the University of Science and Technology in Beijing studying for a bachelor's degree in Computer Science and Technology; Tai Lulu Aslee, at East China University of Technology for a bachelor's degree in the Program of Bioengineering; Bome Godfrey, at China Foreign Affairs University for a master's degree in International Relations; Joseph Nettie, at Zongnan University of Economics and Law for a bachelor's degree in Finance and Accounting; Tamata Mackhely at China Medical University for a bachelor's degree in Clinical Medicine, Jenny Jimmy, at Southern Medical University for a bachelor's degree in Nursing; David Rono, at Chongqing University for a bachelor's degree in Real Estate Management; and Kalmos Kaylene, at Dalian Medical University for a bachelor's degree in Clinical Medicine.

The ambassador congratulated the students and urged them to make good use of the opportunity to excel in their fields of study while living and enjoying the environment of "this dynamic and vast economic super power in the world."

The ambassador travelled to Hai Nan Island in South China last month following an invitation by the Haikou Municipal Government.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XX, Issue No. 218

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER
The Associated Press Pacific Islands News Association

It's time for transformation in DC

By EDWIN J. FEULNER
THE HERITAGE FOUNDATION

After months of "change," Americans have had enough. A recent (Aug. 8) Rasmussen poll of likely voters shows only 30 percent believe the country is headed in the right direction. Two-thirds (65 percent) think America is on the wrong track.

The same overwhelming majority tell Rasmussen they want smaller government—one that does less, costs less and operates far more efficiently.

Progressives scoff, asserting that Americans want Big Government—they just don't want to pay for it. Besides, they argue, there are no other options: conservatives have no ideas on how to address our problems.

They're mistaken. The proof is found in "Solutions for America," a comprehensive 54-page guide from The Heritage Foundation that presents more than 120 conservative policy prescriptions to get our nation back on the right track. Some of the recommendations are groundbreaking. Others are familiar. All have one thing in common: They would return power to the people. And, collectively, they will transform America.

For example, "Solutions for America" calls for ending the era of open-ended entitlements. Spending on the Big Three entitlement programs—Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security—is on autopilot, consuming an ever-increasing share of GDP without even a vote in Congress.

Lawmakers need to bring these programs into the budgetary process, establishing firm, five-year budgets and making sure that those needing help the most get it.

We should raise the Social Security retirement age, and encourage people to work longer by eliminating payroll taxes for those over retirement age. We should let needy families choose how to spend their share of Medicaid dollars, allowing them to purchase higher quality private insurance. And when entitlement spending exceeds congressionally approved levels, automatic triggers should keep costs in line.

We must cap welfare spending, which now, across all levels of government, approaches $1 trillion. Congress should consider all 71 means-tested welfare programs as a whole, eliminating duplicative programs and capping annual increases in welfare spending at the rate of inflation.

Moreover, lawmakers should break the culture of dependency by making sure that able-bodied welfare recipients give something in return for their benefits. In some areas, this will mean strengthening work requirements. In others, it may involve treating some benefits as loans to be repaid.

Spending overall also needs to be restrained. "Solutions" recommends a mechanism to force Congress to live within a reasonable budget: a binding cap that limits future year-to-year growth in federal spending to inflation plus population growth. The general goal should be to lower spending to the historic norm of no more than 20 percent of GDP.

Other common-sense policy proposals in "Solutions" include:

■ Aligning the top tax rate on corporate earnings with those of our 30 largest trading partners, so we can better compete for business globally.

■ Letting states opt out of inflexible, D.C.-based programs, so they can resume their traditional leadership roles and freely pursue innovative approaches in areas such as education and transportation.

■ Ending corporate welfare and earmarks.

■ Returning to a foreign policy of "peace through strength" to deal with the growing threat of nuclear proliferation and well as the dangers posed by global terrorism and hostile conventional forces.

At a recent fundraiser, President Obama asserted: "The other side isn't offering anything new." As if centralized government based on the principles of control, spending, debt and redistribution of wealth

See IT'S TIME on Page 13

Look! Millions of $$$ under our feet!

First part of a series

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is the former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

Come with me as we discover millions of dollars lying directly under our feet. Not only will we find this money but we will be creating hundreds, perhaps thousands, of local jobs. But the most important thing is, along with this new found money will be the pride that we did it on our own. Everyone becomes a winner. None of the ideas require huge sums of money. But they do require determination.

Let's sit down and discuss the ideas. When you finish, rush up to the Legislature, call them at home, meet them for coffee anywhere and stress that these ideas are viable. We have millions of dollars lying directly under our feet.

The surest and fastest way to increase revenue immediately is to place a *protective tariff* on all imported food and on other items that compete with the things we can grow or produce ourselves. A protective tariff is a duty imposed on imports to raise their price, making them less attractive to consumers and thus protecting domestic industries from foreign competition. In these times of need, we must protect our home industries from foreign competition. Think about all the imports we see in our stores that we could produce ourselves.

Every country in the world has protective duties to protect their domestic businesses. These protective duties are also used to protect fledging businesses in a country. The most recent blatant example, which hurt us badly, was what happened in the garment industry. Recall that when import tariffs were reduced in 2005, the United States became flooded with garments from other countries, upsetting and destroying the garment industry that had been flourishing in the CNMI. So how does this work?

We grow many different produce in the CNMI. To mention a few, we grow eggplants, cucumbers, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, and assorted green vegetables. We grow pineapples, bananas, tangerines, mangos, papayas and other fruits. There are lots more we could grow.

Some people are now growing aquaculture seafood such as tilapia and shrimp. We have devoted fishermen catching fish within our waters enough to feed us. We process and sell drinking water in small and large bottles. Currently there are about 10 bottling companies on island. Other people are growing lovely flowers. This is only a short list of all the items and foodstuffs that we are growing or producing currently in the CNMI.

To prove that our produce is just as good as any grown in the United States, recently an associate and I sold several hundred pounds of locally grown sweet potatoes to the U.S. military commissary in Guam. The potatoes were sold out quickly. I have also sold shrimp there. This proves that our produce can be accepted for export. We have capabilities that we refuse to acknowledge.

So why are we importing these items that we can produce ourselves and exporting our scarce dollars?

We need to make a list of all the items we can produce and are producing in the CNMI. Then slap a huge *import duty* on any item that is imported in competition of any item that we can produce ourselves here.

By instituting *protective tariffs* several exciting things will happen. When an importer insists on importing the same item on the list of what we are producing here, he will have to pay a tariff duty of say 20 to 25 percent or higher. Consider the amount of revenue. For example, if for one month imported goods on the list total $200,000. By importing the items on the restricted list, a tariff of 25 percent is levied. The tax revenue becomes $50,000. Consider this over a 12-month period. This protective tariff could be higher should importers continue to bring in taxable items. In fact, it could amount to over $1,000,000 of import duty in one year!

By instituting this plan a major effect will happen in that our farmers will begin to seriously grow more produce and fruits. They will have incentives and motivation because they know that there will be a market for their produce and fruits. Other entrepreneurs will also begin to create and make items because there is a home market. Think of all the new activity, new jobs, and flow of local money!

This idea of a *protective tariff* is being used successfully in many countries. It is used also to protect its industries against unfair competition. I strongly recommend that we implement the protective tariff immediately. We have the power to do this. Please don't shrug it off as just another crazy idea. Sometimes from crazy ideas wonderful thing happen.

Also by not exporting our scarce dollars, we will have more money to circulate. In economics it is called the *multiplier effect*. It allows the expansion of a country's money supply that result from banks being able to lend. In other words, it is money used to create more money and calculated by a bank's deposits by the reserve requirement.

If, for example, the bank is required to hold back 20 percent of its deposits for every $100 a customer deposits into a bank, $20 must be kept in reserve. However, the remaining $80 is loaned out to other bank customers. This $80 is then deposited by these customers into another bank, which in turn must also keep 20 percent, or $16, in reserve but can lend out the remaining $64. This cycle continues—as more people deposit money and more banks continue lending it—until finally the $100 initially deposited creates a total of $500 ($100/ 0.2) in deposits. This creation of deposits is the multiplier effect.

Simply put, if we keep $10,000,000 here and deposit it in a bank, we will have created new money that can be borrowed up to $50,000,000. This means we will be able to borrow easier for car loans, home improvement loans, mortgages, and other necessary loans. The banks have more money to lend and must lend if they are to stay in business. But if we export our dollars, the banks find it difficult to loan us money because they have fewer dollars to work with. Think about it. It's a law of economics.

Here are a few other things we could do. For example, we can implement free trade zones here. This means that items can be imported and assembled or services performed in the free trade zone.

See LOOK! on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Silensiu i señgsoñg paraisu

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

DelRosario is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section.*

Gi halom sirenu gi taftaf ogaan, mampos silensiu i tanu sa' memegaiña trabiha makeke rikohe i uttimu mugu'. Ayu ha' 'nai ma-estotban ñaihon este na silensiu 'an man-dadakot sinparat in leblon bañku gi pettan santatte. Fuetsau, siempre un' kahulu.

Kada unu ha regla yan tulusgue' para i chechu. Megai dumibibina hafa mamamaila' kulan finatai ni un' tuñgu na siempre u fattu lau ti un' tuñgu sessu ñgaian. Estague' un' chinatsaga gi entalo mariatkan yan patriatkan familia diariamente na tiempu.

Mampus silensiu na esta fuetsau, lamegai gi tautauta lumagnos salape kontribusion niha ginen i fondun man-ritirau. Ha mueba siha para Guam, Hawaii yan sanlagu. Triste na hinanau sa' ti pot para u fan bakasion. Lau pot inaligau prontu na nesessidat familian niha.

Mahuchom este na pahina gi leblon niha. Siempre u fan mañoda nuebu na "lugat" para siha. Lau i "gima'" niha gaige guine. Siña un' dia u fan man-besita mage pot para u marinueba amesta yan familia siha. Dudayu kau u fañaga guine talu. Estague pinadesen un' silensiu na tiempu gi estorian iya Marianas. Mampos silensiu na esta na' tañga.

■■■

Yangin ti malago i publiku inapprueban un' asuntu, hafa na para u madisatentuye ennau na diniseha?

Komprendiyon i taya' salape, lau 'nai esta i publiku hana' oppan dichu dinisehaña hafa na fuetsau para un' tulaika ennau na sentimentu?

Bueno sa' sanhilu na guma lehislatura ha punu ginagau casino ni ma-apprueba gi alacha ni mayoria gi sanpapa na guma lehislatura. Este na aksion megai fumama kumu propiu disision ni umonra i sentimenton publiku ni pot dos besis ha disapprueba casino para Saipan.

Dispues de katma, u fattu un' linau 'nai lamegai gi manatachu yan umisague i disision publiku siempre u fan basnag sin ditension. O'sun i publiku mafa' si kopas yan tampen sinenan. Menhalom esta i publiku ya makat unna' salakumba' gi asuntoña.

■■■

Tatnai mattu gi hinasoghu na para u palopu' hit i kakaghalom na chubaskon chinatsaga. Megai 'nai hu konsidera hafa tita lie' na man-achagigu hit todus guatu gi kantit eskases.

Lamegai katsu antes tat kumu i Micronesian War Claims, ayudu dispues de dañkulu na pagyu, apas tanu (land compensation), rinisiben apas tax, yan atkilon tanu siha.

Pagu na biahe manaigue este siha na fina' katsu. Todu mata ni un' atan na tiempu, tat ti umi'iba pot chinatsaga. Siempre mumagahet i kanten amiguhu Kevin Atalig, "chochu maigu, ayu 'nai un' kahulu, fan espiha picnic yan barbecue".

■■■

Hu soda un' probision lai US Immigration 'nai i bisnis 'sino estadu siña hanae' kometsianten ginen hiyoñg Green Card 'nai libre ha mueba siha parehu yan prefektu sudadanon Amerikanu.

Debi u fan lagnos $500,000 yan u prueba na siña esta dies na tautau manma-emplea. I nina halom fiñkas (fondun investment) kabales na proteksion guaha para i sumaunau.

Malaguyu' limie' este makonsidera guine lau i Attikulu Dose gaige giya monana para u dagau gi un' banda este na fina' prebilehiu. Rason? Taya proteksion para i malagu pumega fiñkas niha guine.

Esta lamegai na estados matutuhon mana setbe este na patte gi lai ya sige ma-espiha amanu i siña koyenturan para umana' fan halom este siha na kometsiante (investors). Mientras tantos, sige hit de manliliku katan, luchan, haya yan lagu. Hafa Adai!

ObamaCare ObamaHope

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section.*

For a decade, ours was a war on terror, honing our skills to kill; then came Obama who led us to care in order to heal. We accused him of instituting death panels while we allowed our kids to play vicious war games against the infidel in the arcade. I have yet to find a 5 year old on island who does not get excited at the sight of a plastic M16.

On Labor Day, President Obama unveiled a daring program of injecting another stimulus package into the economy through a public works program. He aims to repair/construct 150,000 miles of public highways, 4,000 miles of rails, and a few runways. On island, GOP's party chair Michael Steele dubbed the effort unnecessary. I will not pass it by Kilili to have the Tinian and Rota airport expansion blueprints already in his briefcase!

Understandably, our purveyor of hope is playing "I dare you" politics, this being an election year where already the Democrats have pretty much conceded midterm election losses. FDR on the midterm election after he unleashed his stimulus packages (the New Deal) lost 71 seats in the lower house and six in the Senate. The President's vaunted conciliatory, collaborative, and cooperative stance has finally seen the light of day: "they treat me like a dog," the President says of the opposition.

I have a card handed to me by a seatmate over breakfast at the Russell Senate building in 2007. It reads "Joe Wilson, Member of Congress." He had more than 15 minutes of shame when he called the President a "liar" while the chief executive was delivering a State of the Union Address before the joint session of Congress. Anti-Obama sentiments, however, added girth to Joe Wilson's campaign coffers.

Those of us who found Obama's election refreshing trust that he will push needed buttons at a more accelerated pace. For now, we might have a setback of a sort. Consider the transportation proposal. One can almost hear the champagne corks popping at OPEC headquarters and the Automobile Industry boardrooms.

We lauded GWB when he signed a railroad improvement bill before leaving office. Last year, we took a monthlong *America by Rails* trip chronicled in these pages, noting the condition of caboose and track south of the 48th parallel and north of the 30th, noting the mood of the riding public. The rides were neither functional nor fun. Familiar with Japan's *Shinkanshen* bullet trains, we have a feel for the high-speed-rail that's become a hallmark of long distance mass transit. China's CRH series now exceeds Japan's speed, and with Shanghai's Maglev, China is way ahead of everyone in rails. The country aims a Beijing-London run in the foreseeable future!

The letdown in Obama's offering comes to us who are not fans of Corvette's Route 66, and though the automobile industry can use a shot in the arm, Detroit long ceased being futuric. The expenditure on highways rather than rails hardly constitutes hopeful change.

The comparison of Obama's New Dare with FDR's New Deal is often made. Historians and economist speculate whether FDR's massive public works that lifted the nation from the Depression would have worked in the long run without the demand for armaments when Japan bombed Pearl Harbor. The nation retooled its industrial capability at a cost of 100 percent of GDP. What would be Obama's Pearl Harbor? It would perk the Americas if Obama suddenly says, ala JFK to the moon, "We shall have a super rail line from Ottawa to Santiago via NYC, Chicago and L.A., with the choo-choo going toot-toot around the north American plate, then south to San Diego and beyond. America Sud will have Panama connect to Caracas, Recife, Rio, Buenos Aires in the east, and Bogota, Lima, Santiago and Buenos Aires in the west." *Ay, Caramba. Arriva! Arriba! Arriva!*

Post WWII addiction to fossil fuel exemplified by our obsession with the automobile, and the image of two cars in every driveway, chicken in every pot, and 2.5 kids with 1.5 pets in the bedroom, has left our economy biting the dust, our industrial belts foul, and our cities smog-filled. Ironically, Japan that got the brunt of the atomic bomb decided to make its defense weapons nuclear-free, but its energy source nuclear-dependent. In turn, the United States put its nuclear power development on hold while it accelerated the production of nuclear armaments. Go figure.

However faltering hope might appear, Obama's dare is still a promising turn away from the politics of fear under threat of a nuclear Armageddon! Perhaps, in the next round of expenditures, we might see a shift from public works to investments on the public mind, on applications of the soft and hard technologies of hope. For it is in the American mind that we descend from the arrogant heights of the American empire we innocently stumbled into, toward our democratic roots. We might yet again regain the image of a beacon on a hill, of the land of the free and the home of the brave, rather than the Darth Vader dominion of fear and the haven of the fanatical knaves.

The Commonwealth is tied to the future of the military. That's where we are and here's where we begin, again, in profound acceptance and gratitude beyond understanding. Only then is change possible, so there is hope.

Letter to the Editor

Let the will of the people prevail

When the people of California a while ago voted to pass a referendum banning "Adam and Steve" type of marriages, that proposition became a public law for a little while. It took only one advocate judge to reverse the will of the people because of constitutional reasons. We are facing the same dilemma here in the CNMI, but somewhat the opposite in that six senators from Tinian and Rota are blocking the will of the sovereign to exercise their dictum on a matter that affects them.

The irony of political or constitutional democracy does inflict deep injuries to mandates of the sovereign and, surprisingly enough, those in power could flex their standards to substitute their own for the rule of the majority. Is this democracy evolving without the basic liberty and opportunity of the sovereign? The question of whether the sovereign people of the CNMI favor and approve the elevation of aliens to other status other than being aliens in the CNMI is important, hence, such question should give way for the sovereign to make that sentiment and intention known. Otherwise, the future of aliens and indigenous people would have a clear dividing line and chaos will be prone to happen. There is only a limited land in all the CNMI islands, and putting more people into these islands will meet its saturation point, then trouble will come and manifest itself in many different forms that could have been prevented today. By that time, the indigenous people will be an endangered species and their status as a people will be wiped out in this world. Who is to blame? A referendum by the present generation should take us to that juncture of the twilight zone. Let's us make that choices and stick with what we want. This is the democracy in action. No senator big enough can subordinate the will of the people, let alone block their rights to vote on this matter.

Francisco R. Agulto
Chalan Kanoa, Saipan

LOOK!

From Page 10

We still have the advantages and benefits of Head Note 3. If we simply add at least 30 percent to the item that we work on in the free trade zone, that item can be exported to the Untied States duty-free.

Bill Stewart, a great economist with a deep love for the CNMI, has suggested a few examples of FTZ occupants that we should seriously pursue. Several of them sound like real possibilities: date- and time-zone-sensitive activities; computer animation and graphic production; computer component manufacturing; product warehousing and distribution; aircraft instrument maintenance, sporting equipment products; credit card debit/credit activities; software development; data backup storage; medical and other scientific delicate instruments; pharmaceuticals; and other items with high value in relation to bulk which can be flown to markets around the world. (Do you know that it takes about the same flight time to go to Los Angeles as to London from Saipan?)

Certainly there is no guarantee that any of the activities listed above would locate in the Commonwealth's free trade zone. This incomplete list is indicative only of the type of activities that zone management should endeavor to attract. Why not try to attract some of the businesses mentioned above? It is better to have failed in trying than to not have tried. Who knows? Maybe one or two may respond favorably. At least we can say we tried. But are doing anything like this? Or are we simply resigned to our feeling of depression that we are doomed? If we were in a swimming pool almost drowning, would we simply lie back and wait for the last breath?

Some people think I am a dreamer. No, I am a visionary. I see the diamonds under our feet waiting to be picked up. Hopefully one or two of the readers feel as I do. Call me and let's discuss. Wouldn't it be great to prove the doubters wrong? Yes, there are millions of dollars under our feet. Next week I will write about more opportunities.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲84	▼78
Palau	Rain	▲86	▼78
Yap	Rain	▲86	▼78
Chuuk	Mostly Sunny	▲82	▼77
Pohnpei	Showers	▲89	▼75
Kosrae	Partly Sunny	▲89	▼76
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼76

Around The Globe

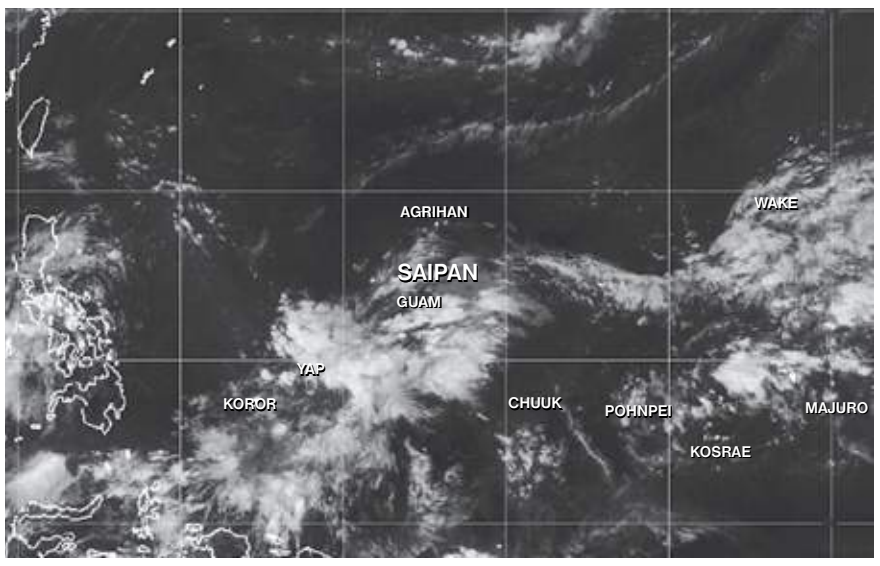
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲61	▼54
Beijing	Sunny	▲82	▼64
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲87	▼71
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲86	▼75
London	Partly Cloudy	▲67	▼53
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲75	▼58
Manila	Thundershowers	▲88	▼76
Melbourne	Showers	▲57	▼42
Miami	Thundershowers	▲89	▼78
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲78	▼63
Osaka	Thundershowers	▲87	▼74
Paris	Fog	▲70	▼52
Pusan	Thundershowers	▲80	▼72
Rome	Sunny	▲84	▼62
Salem	Sunny	▲77	▼52
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲65	▼54
Seoul	Thundershowers	▲81	▼68
Tokyo	Thundershowers	▲82	▼75
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲83	▼66

Tides

Saipan Harbor

5:10 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
11:53 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
5:25 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet
10:34 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2010

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Upper-level divergence near an upper low centered west of the CNMI at 15N142E is generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms between Yap and Guam within an area bounded by a line from 14N136E to 9N135E to 8N139E to 12N142E back to 14N136E. Another upper low centered west of Wake Island at 18N162E is producing similar weather between the Marshalls and Wake Island within 80 miles of a line from 14N157E to 15N163E and between 12N and 19N from 163E to 173E. A surface trough southwest of Yap and Guam extends northeastward from 5N139E to 14N148E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found within 150 miles of the trough axis including the Marianas. Low-level convergence is triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms south of Koror between the equator and 5N from 130E to 140E. Trade-wind convergence is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms from north of Kosrae across the Marshalls to beyond the date line within 120 miles of a line from 9N164E to 10N171E to beyond 8N at 180.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:05 AM	6:21 PM
Tuesday	6:05 AM	6:20 PM
Wednesday	6:06 AM	6:19 PM
Thursday	6:06 AM	6:18 PM
Friday	6:06 AM	6:17 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	10:34 AM	10:07 PM
Tuesday	11:33 AM	11:01 PM
Wednesday	12:29 PM	11:55 PM
Thursday	1:21 PM	
Friday	2:09 PM	12:49 AM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2010

DEPARTURES

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM

C09597	5:00am	5:30am	1, 5

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	Daily
C09605	6:35pm	7:25pm	Daily
C09599	9:35pm	10:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:00am	8:35am	Daily
DL297	3:20pm	5:55pm	Daily
DL289	4:35pm	7:10pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NAGOYA

DL640	7:40am	10:20am	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	Daily via KIX
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
OZ604/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09317/891	4:25am	9:45am	6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:00am	10:10pm	Daily via NRT
DL640/629	7:40am	10:35pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via NGO
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM
C09603/893	3:05pm	9:10pm	3, 5 via GUM-Palau
C09599/PR111	9:35pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/909	3:05pm	9:30pm	1, 5 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM-ROTA (ROP)

C09598	6:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09600	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09606	8:10pm	9:00pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL290	9:45am	2:20pm	Daily
DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:40pm	1:10am+1	Daily

NAGOYA-SAIPAN

DL641	9:10pm	1:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via KIX
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ704/605	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
DL630/641	6:30am	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 via NGO
DL172/288	7:40am	1:10am+1	Daily via NRT
C0890/9606	10:55am	9:00pm	6 via GUM
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/C09596	10:00pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C0892/9596	10:10pm	7:50am+1	3,5 via GUM-Palau
C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605	12:30am	2:30pm	2 ,4 ,6, 7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0910/9596	10:35pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

OPINION

Letters to the Editor

It's about the 2nd and 14th Amendment rights

I would like to comment on Mr. Ed Propst's comments in the letters to the editor Friday. While I agree with about 90 percent of what he suggests, I find his criticism of the Legislature's attention on the upholding of our 2nd Amendment rights and the legalizing of marijuana to be for the most part out of context and irrelevant to our economic situation. Obviously Mr. Propst is an anti-gun person. I am referring to the following statement in his letter: "And, of course, as no surprise, the only solutions to improving the economy coming out of this leadership is casinos on Saipan, legalizing marijuana, and legalizing assault rifles and handguns. If you really think about it, this could boost tourism. But perhaps these aren't the kind of tourists we're looking for. I don't know about you, but I don't really want pot-smoking, gun-toting gambling addicts visiting our islands anytime soon."

I think he mischaracterizes the intent of the Legislature in reference to these bills, with the exception of the casino bill. As for the gun issue, technically, "assault rifles" are legal here. As long as they are 5.56 mm (.223 caliber). For example, one can own the civilian model of the M-16 here. As for handguns, one cannot. But this legislation has nothing to do with revitalizing our economy. It has everything to do with our constitutional right to self-protection under both the 2nd and 14th Amendments. This right was recently upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court regarding the unconstitutional nature of the Washington, D.C. and city of Chicago gun bans. Again, this legislation has nothing to do with the economic situation.

The marijuana issue does have economic implications. You want a "sin tax" on cigarettes (which are as harmful, perhaps more harmful than marijuana). Same with liquor, which, again, is as, if not more harmful, than marijuana. Frankly, with the poker parlors and a large percentage of people here smoking marijuana already, we do have these "pot-smoking, gun-toting (I refer to the maniac who went on a shooting spree last year), gambling addicts" on island already. Not to mention all of the ice and prostitution. Legalizing marijuana would only help by freeing the cops (federal and local) to go after the ice dealers. We could tax marijuana and use that money. Same with prostitution, of course, but that would make sense. I myself am not a pot smoker, but I know many on island who do smoke marijuana. They are hurting nobody. When I lived in Detroit, I had several guns and, with the exception of the burglar who broke into my home, I never hurt anyone, and neither did any of my many "gun-toting friends."

As for casinos, I think it would be a better alternative to the seedy poker places that get robbed every five minutes. Also, it might just generate some extra revenue. Besides, I believe in freedom of choice. As long as consenting adults are not hurting others, I do not understand why the law has to get involved. If someone wants to smoke marijuana, it is a personal choice. As long as that person can keep it under control and not make life more interesting for others, I see no reason for it being against the law. There are many alcoholics here and a bunch of DUI fatalities on island, but nobody is screaming to ban Budweiser! It is hypocrisy at its finest.

Gambling in casinos, well, if you are stupid enough to gamble, go for it. At least casinos might attract people with money to come to the island. What are the poker joints doing? And guns...with the rise in home invasions, unreliable police, and the fact some lunatic broke into my house and almost killed my wife this year. It is my opinion that a 12-gauge shotgun or .357 Magnum is a better insurance policy than dialing 911.

David Radich
Sadog Tasi, Saipan

An appeal for social justice and love

The guest workers in the CNMI has lived and worked for 5, 10, 15, 20 or more years on the islands. They have paid taxes and contributed a lot to the community. They have considered the CNMI their home. They have raised U.S. citizen children. They came to the islands because their services were needed. They are mechanics, cook, accountants, nurses, journalists, housemaids, beauty consultants—almost every field in almost all industries. They are *workers* and not servants. They are hardworking and loyal to their employers.

Locals, especially Gov. Benigno Fitial and other CNMI officials, and the U.S. Congress must consider the contributions and importance of the long-term foreign workers. In the eyes of the Almighty, all human beings are created equal. As Christians, loving our neighbor is our greatest commandment. We appeal and pray that justice and love will prevail in the CNMI.

Jerry Custodio
Human Dignity Movement

Unnecessary travels

It sounds to me like PSS is having fun doing unnecessary travel while the general public is suffering at the same time. PSS has an internal auditor that needs to be audited by an outside independent auditor. Perhaps the independent auditor needs to also be audited. Some politicians love to supply lots of funding to PSS even though we know that some students are having a hard time passing the SAT test. Lots of money are being poured into PSS, confusing the auditors. I don't blame some politicians for focusing their attention on PSS, but make sure that formal education is properly delivered to our community. Every student deserves to pass the SAT test.

Thomas Aquino Cabrera Camacho
Chalan Piao, Saipan

IT'S TIME

From Page 10

is new. It isn't. It's been tried worldwide and has consistently failed.

Yet the calls for lavish spending continue—the only answer we get from the current leadership. Conservative answers start from a very different place. The counterpoint to thoughtless and expensive government programs is not new thoughtless and expensive government programs. The counterpoint is real reform.

The principles that our nation was founded upon aren't ideas to be discarded. They're exceptional goals to be rediscovered. Real government reform is itself an untested idea. That's what conservatives offer. It's an idea whose time has come.

Edwin J. Feulner is president of The Heritage Foundation. Readers may write to the author in care of The Heritage Foundation, 214 Massachusetts Avenue NE, Washington, D.C. 20002; Web site: www.heritage.org.

Business

WITH ELECTIONS LOOMING

Record gains for US poverty

WASHINGTON (AP)—The number of people in the U.S. who are in poverty is on track for a record increase on President Barack Obama's watch, with the ranks of working-age poor approaching 1960s levels that led to the national war on poverty.

Census figures for 2009—the recession-ravaged first year of the Democrat's presidency—are to be released in the coming week, and demographers expect grim findings.

It's unfortunate timing for Obama and his party just seven weeks before important elections when control of Congress is at stake. The anticipated poverty rate increase—from 13.2 percent to about 15 percent—would be another blow to Democrats struggling to persuade voters to keep them in power.

"The most important anti-poverty effort is growing the economy and making sure there are enough jobs out there," Obama said Friday at a White House news conference. He stressed his commitment to helping the poor achieve middle-class status and said, "If we can grow the economy faster and create more jobs, then everybody is swept up into that virtuous cycle."

Interviews with six demographers who closely track poverty trends found wide consensus that 2009 figures are likely to show a significant rate increase to the range of 14.7 percent to 15 percent.

Should those estimates hold true, some 45 million people in this country, or more than 1 in 7, were poor last year. It would be the highest single-year increase since the government began calculating poverty figures in 1959. The previous high was in 1980 when the rate jumped 1.3 percentage points to 13 percent during the energy crisis.

Among the 18-64 working-age population, the demographers expect a rise beyond 12.4 percent, up from 11.7 percent. That would make it the highest since at least 1965, when another Democratic president, Lyndon B. Johnson, launched the war on poverty that expanded the federal government's role in social welfare programs from education to health care.

WINDOW SHOPPING AP

California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger inspects a China's high-speed train at Hongqiao Railway Station in Shanghai, China, Sunday, Sept. 12, 2010. Schwarzenegger is riding the rails, China's new high speed train lines, engaging in a little window shopping while peddling Californian exports and tourism in the world's second-largest economy. His own state budget $19 billion in the red, Schwarzenegger says he is hoping for some "creative financing" from Asia to help lower costs and get California's proposed high-speed rail lines up and running.

Four Guam firms get Navy contract

APRA HARBOR, Guam—Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas awarded an indefinite delivery indefinite quantity multiple award contract Sept. 8 with a combined maximum capacity of $50 million to four SBA HUBZone firms.

The small business firms include: CKY Inc. of Hagatna, Guam; Donaldson Enterprises Inc. from Waikoloa, Hawaii; Environet Inc. of Honolulu, Hawaii; and Unitek Environmental Guam from Barrigada, Guam.

Under the terms of the contract these four companies will compete for task orders with scopes of work that will include munitions response and incidental environmental remediation on Guam and the surrounding Pacific Ocean.

"Safety is paramount," said NAVFAC Marianas commanding officer Capt. Peter Lynch.

"This contract will facilitate the process of surveying construction areas and ensuring proper handling of any munitions and explosives of concern in an effort to enhance our culture of safety on all NAVFAC projects."

The contract includes one base period and four option years with an expected completion date of September 2015.

This contract was competitively procured via the Navy Electronic Commerce Online website with five proposals received. ***(PR)***

BaoG opens new Pohnpei branch bldg.

HAGATNA, Guam—The Bank of Guam opened a new Pohnpei branch building on Monday, Sept. 13, 2010, according to a statement the bank issued Friday.

While the move will take place the weekend of Sept. 10, the new branch address and operating numbers are as follows:

■ Bank of Guam Pohnpei Branch

■ Address: Liwi Street, Pohnmpwomw, Nett, Pohnpei, FM 96942

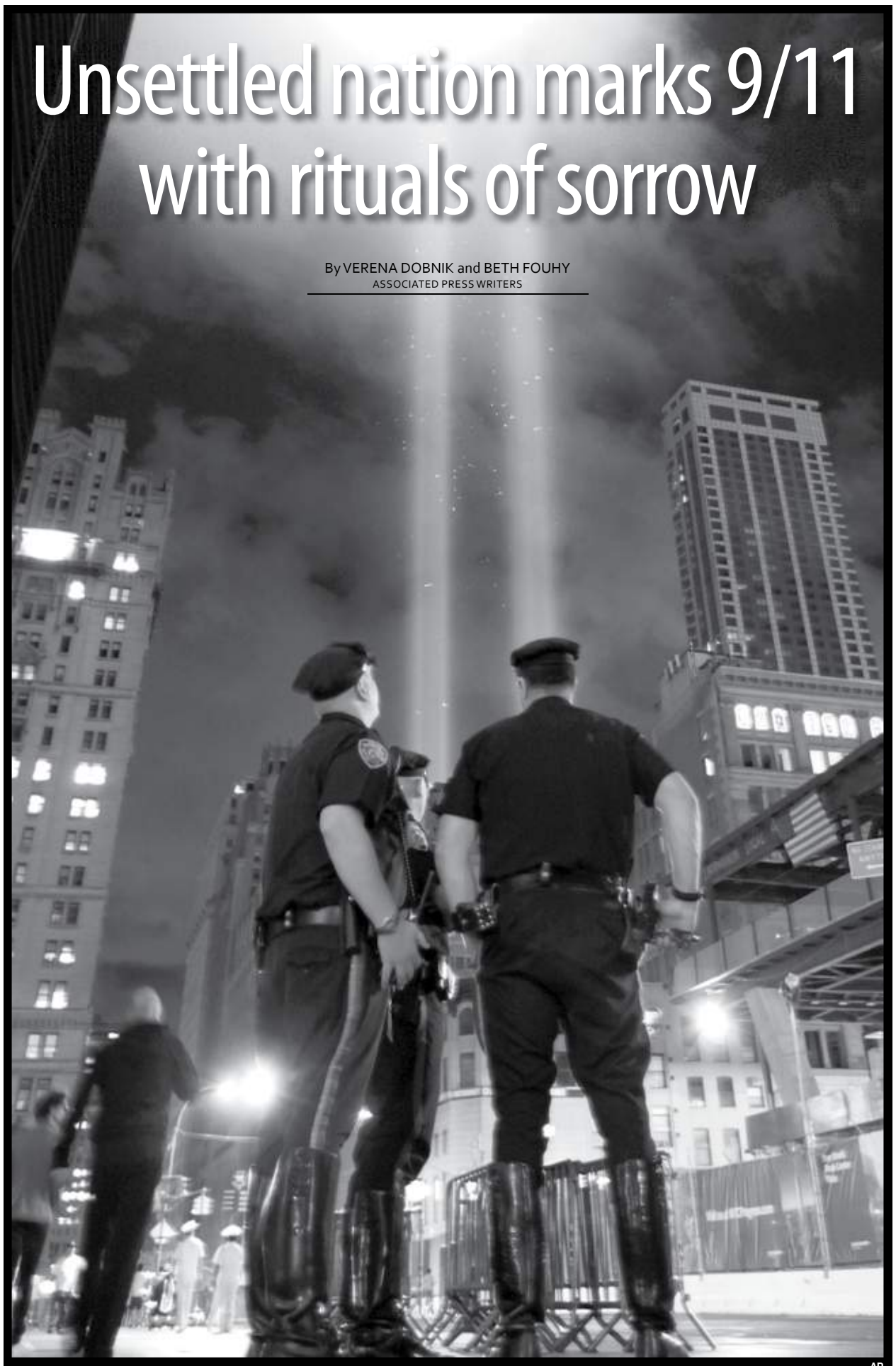
■ Telephone Numbers: 691-320-2530/2446.

The branch manager continues to be Vida Ricafrente, assisted by Disko Jack, operations manager. ***(PR)***

Nation

Unsettled nation marks 9/11 with rituals of sorrow

By VERENA DOBNIK and BETH FOUHY
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITERS



AP

Officers are seen in view of the Tribute in Light as it rises above New York on, Saturday, Sept. 11, 2010. In an annual tradition, the two bright blue beams of light rise from lower Manhattan in memory of the fallen twin towers

NEW YORK (AP)—Rites of remembrance and loss marked the ninth anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks, familiar in their sorrow but observed for the first time Saturday in a nation torn over the prospect of a mosque near ground zero and the role of Islam in society.

Under a flawless blue sky that called to mind the day itself, there were tears and song, chants, and the waving of hundreds of American flags. Loved ones recited the names of the victims, as they have each year since the attacks. They looked up to add personal messages to the lost and down to place flowers in a reflecting pool in their honor.

For a few hours Saturday morning, the political and cultural furor over whether a proposed Islamic center and mosque belongs two blocks from the World Trade Center site mostly gave way to the somber anniversary ceremony and pleas from elected officials for religious tolerance.

But this Sept. 11 was unmistakably different from the eight that came before it, and not only because a new World Trade Center is finally ready to rise. As they finished reading names, two relatives of 9/11 victims issued pleas—one to God and one to New York—that the site remain "sacred."

And within hours of the city's memorial service near ground zero, groups of protesters had taken up positions in lower Manhattan, blocks apart and representing both sides of the debate over the mosque, which has suffused the nation's politics for weeks leading up to the anniversary.

Near City Hall, supporters of the mosque toted signs that read, "The attack on Islam is racism" and "Tea Party bigots funded by corporate $." Opponents carried placards that read, "It stops here" and "Never forgive, never forget, no WTC mosque."

At the other Sept. 11 attack sites, as at ground zero, elected leaders sought to remind Americans of the acts of heroism that marked a Tuesday in 2001 and the national show of unity that followed.

President Barack Obama, appealing to an unsettled nation from the Pentagon, declared that the United States could not "sacrifice the liberties we cherish or hunker down behind walls of suspicion and mistrust."

"As Americans we are not—and never will be—at war with Islam," the president said. "It was not a religion that attacked us that September day—it was al-Qaida, a sorry band of men which perverts religion."

In Shanksville, Pa., first lady Michelle Obama and her predecessor, Laura Bush, spoke at a public event together for the first time since last year's presidential inauguration. At the rural field where the 40 passengers and crew of United Flight 93 lost their lives, Obama said "a scar in the earth has healed," and Bush said "Americans have no division" on this day.

In New York, the leader of a small Christian congregation in Florida who had planned to burn copies of the Quran to mark the Sept. 11 anniversary called off his plans.

Pastor Terry Jones gave an interview to NBC's "Today" after flying to New York in hopes of meeting with leaders of the mosque and persuading them to move the Islamic center in exchange for his canceling his own plans. No meeting had taken place, he said.

Nonetheless, "We feel that God is telling us to stop," he said. "Not today, not ever. We're not going to go back and do it. It is totally canceled."

Jones' plan had drawn opposition across the political spectrum and the world. Obama had appealed to him on television, and Defense Secretary Robert Gates in a personal phone call, not to burn the Islamic holy book. Gen. David Petraeus, head of the U.S. mission in Afghanistan, said carrying out the plan would have endangered American troops.

Nevertheless, there were isolated reports of Quran desecrations on the anniversary, including two not far from ground zero.

Afghans, meanwhile, set fire to tires in the streets and shouted "Death to America" for a second day despite Jones' decision to call off the burning. The largest drew a crowd estimated at 10,000.

There were no arrests in New York, police said. There were scattered scuffles in the streets, including one in which a man ripped up another's poster advocating freedom of religion and the second man struck back with the stick.

Near the World Trade Center site, a memorial to the 2,752 who died there played out mostly as it had each year since 2001. Bells were tolled to mark the times of impact of the two hijacked jets and the times the twin towers collapsed.

Assigned to read the names of the fallen, relatives of 9/11 victims calmly made their way through their lists, then struggled, some looking skyward, as they addressed their lost loved ones.

"David, please know that we love you. We miss you desperately," said Michael Brady, whose brother worked at Merrill Lynch. "We think about you and we pray for you every day."

Sean Holohan, whose brother was killed, called out to the 343 firefighters who died: "All of you proved that day to the world that we are still one indivisible nation under God."

Family members of Sept. 11 victims also laid flowers in a reflecting pool and wrote individual messages along its edges.

Around the spot where they paid tribute, ground zero is transforming itself. Just this week, officials hoisted a 70-foot piece of trade center steel there and vowed to open the Sept. 11 memorial, with two waterfalls marking where the towers stood, by next year. At the northwest corner of the site, 1 World Trade Center, formerly known as the Freedom Tower, now rises 36 stories above ground. It is set to open in 2013 and be 1,776 feet tall, taller than the original trade center.

The proposed Islamic cultural center, which organizers say will promote interfaith learning, would go in an abandoned Burlington Coat Factory two blocks uptown from ground zero.

Muslim prayer services are normally held at the site, but it was padlocked Friday and closed Saturday, the official end of the holy month of Ramadan. Police planned 24-hour patrols until next week. Worshippers on Friday were redirected to a different prayer room 10 blocks away.

On Saturday, about 1,500 opponents of the mosque chanted "USA" and "No mosque here." Critics have said that even if organizers have a First Amendment right to build the center where they want, putting it near ground zero would be a show of disrespect.

"Stop bending down to them. Stop placating them. No special treatment," said Alice Lemos, 58, speaking of Muslims and holding a small American flag on a stick. "This isn't about religion. This is about rubbing our faces in their victory over us."

Elizabeth Meehan, 51, was among about 2,000 rallying to support the mosque. Meehan, who rode a bus to the rally from her home in Saratoga, N.Y., about 180 miles away, said she is an observant Christian and felt it was important for Christians to speak in favor of religious freedom.

"I'm really fearful of all of the hate that's going on in our country. People in one brand of Christianity are coming out against other faiths, and I find that so sad," she said. "Muslims are fellow Americans, they should have the right to worship in America just like anyone else."

In an annual tradition, two bright blue beams of light rose from lower Manhattan in memory of the fallen towers on Saturday night.

> *This Sept. 11 was unmistakably different from the eight that came before it, and not only because a new World Trade Center is finally ready to rise.*

Asia

NKorea offers new family reunion talks with SKorea

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea has offered South Korea a new round of reunions for families separated by the Korean War, state media said Saturday.

Reunions last happened in September and October 2009, and their potential renewal could signal an easing of tensions after the deadly sinking of a South Korean warship in March.

The North proposed that the two Koreas' Red Cross societies meet soon to discuss the gatherings. It proposed the reunions take place at the North's scenic Diamond Mountain on the Chuseok autumn harvest holiday, the North's official Korean Central News Agency reported.

Chuseok, which falls on Sept. 22 this year, is a major holiday for both Koreas, equivalent to Thanksgiving in the United States.

North Korea's Red Cross chief Jang Jae On expressed hope that "humanitarian cooperation between the North and the South would get brisk with the reunion of separated families and their relatives." Jang made the comment in a message sent to his South Korean counterpart on Friday, according to KCNA.

South Korea's Red Cross would consider the North's proposal and consult with the government, according to Kim Seong-keun, a South Korean Red Cross official in charge of inter-Korean cooperation.

The two sides last held Red Cross-brokered reunions for six days around Chuseok holiday in late September and early October last year. So far, more than 20,800 separated families have been reunited through brief face-to-face meetings or by video following a landmark inter-Korean summit in 2000.

Millions of families were separated by the division of the Korean peninsula in 1945 and the 1950-53 Korean War, which ended with a cease-fire, not a peace treaty, leaving the two countries technically at war. There are no mail, telephone or e-mail exchanges between ordinary citizens across the Korean border.

The North's offer is the latest in a series of conciliatory gestures by North Korea toward Seoul and Washington.

Last month, North Korea freed an imprisoned American during former President Jimmy Carter's rare trip to Pyongyang. Earlier this week, the North also released a seven-man crew of a South Korean fishing boat seized a month ago in its waters.

Landslide kills 4 in southern Philippines

COTABATO, Philippines (AP)—An official says a landslide triggered by heavy rains has killed four people and destroyed 20 homes in a southern Philippine village.

Mayor Peter Miguel of Koronadal city says the downpour loosened soil and boulders and uprooted trees that tumbled down onto nearby houses.

He says the landslide late Friday killed a 37-year-old woman, her two young children and an elderly neighbor. Their bodies were carried several hundred yards (meters) away by a flash flood.

Miguel says a 7-month-old child is missing and 20 houses were destroyed.

Meteorologists say converging trade winds generated rain clouds that drenched the area.

Pakistani flood victims celebrate Eid in tents

AP

Pakistani flood-affected women and children wait for their turn to get Eid al-Fitr gift distributing by volunteers at a camp outskirt of Karachi, Pakistan on Saturday, Sept. 11, 2010.

By MARGIE MASON and MUNIR AHMED
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITERS

MUZAFFARGARH, Pakistan (AP)—Millions of Pakistani flood victims celebrated Islam's most joyous festival in donated tents and makeshift shelters as the country's leaders - criticized for an inadequate response to the disaster - pledged more aid.

The water has receded in many places but remains head-high in others, forcing victims to stay outside their villages in camps or alone on roadsides.

Girls gathered at one camp near a power plant in the city of Muzaffargarh, sitting on a rug unfurled on the ground near the road as aid workers decorated their hands with intricate henna designs.

Their mothers, hovering behind, said even this small pleasure would soon be gone.

"We don't have the happiness of Eid. What is the happiness?" said Amana Bibi, 25. "We don't have homes."

Charities sent bags of gifts such as shiny plastic wrist bangles and candies to children displaced by the floods, which have affected some 18 million people.

The three-day Eid al-Fitr festival is celebrated at the end of the fasting month of Ramadan. The festival begins when the first visible crescent of the new moon is seen in the skies. Eid started Friday in Pakistan's northwest and Saturday in most other parts of the country.

During Ramadan, the faithful are supposed to abstain from food, drink, smoking and sex in a dawn-to-dusk period meant to test the faith and discipline of Muslims.

Eid includes morning prayers at mosques before visits, gift-giving and meals at relatives' and friends' homes.

The Pakistani government has been criticized by victims for its inability to deliver adequate aid.

Thousands of Afghans join anti-Quran-burning protest

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Afghans set fire to tires in the streets and shouted "Death to America" for a second day Saturday despite a decision by an American pastor to call off plans to burn copies of the Islamic holy book.

The protests, the largest drawing a crowd estimated at more than 10,000 people, continued despite a decision by a Florida pastor to call off plans to burn copies of the Quran on the ninth anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in the United States that triggered the war in Afghanistan.

The pastor, Terry Jones, told NBC on Saturday that "we feel that God is telling us to stop" the Quran burning, which had stirred outrage among millions of Muslims and others worldwide.

"We're not going to go back and do it," Jones said, referring to the planned burning. "It is totally canceled."

But in a country where most people have limited access to newspapers, television and the Internet, most Afghans were unaware of Jones' decision. The Taliban have been distributing pamphlets decrying Jones' plans, claiming they showed the Americans were in Afghanistan to wage war against Islam.

In Logar province near the capital of Kabul, police fired warning shots to prevent protesters from storming the governor's residence in the provincial capital of Puli Alam, officials said. Villagers set fire to tires and briefly blocked the main highway to neighboring Pakistan, according to provincial spokesman Din Mohammad Darwish.

Nabi Charkhi, the deputy provincial police chief, estimated the crowd at more than 10,000.

ASIAN BRIEFS

NATO says 5 insurgents killed in Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—NATO says a Taliban commander who planned attacking polling stations during next week's elections and four other insurgents have been killed in eastern Afghanistan. The military alliance said in a statement Sunday that NATO and Afghan forces killed the five on Saturday night in a village compound in the Nangarhar province after they displayed "hostile intent." It said intelligence reports indicate the Taliban commander was planning to conduct rocket attacks against voting centers during the Sept. 18 parliamentary elections. The Taliban has vowed to attack polling stations and warned Afghans not to participate in what it called a sham vote.

Officials: Airstrike kills 4 militants in Pakistan

MIR ALI, Pakistan (AP)—A suspected U.S. missile strike early Sunday killed at least four associates of a warlord who is fighting Western troops in Afghanistan, intelligence officials said. Powerful militant leader Hafiz Gul Bahadur struck a truce with the Pakistani military and agreed to stay on the sidelines last year as it waged an offensive in the South Waziristan tribal area against the Pakistani Taliban, a group dedicated to attacking the Pakistani state, among other targets. Bahadur has focused instead on battling U.S. and NATO troops across the border in Afghanistan. Two Pakistan intelligence officials told The Associated Press two missiles targeted a home in the village of Datta Khel in the North Waziristan tribal area where Gul's associates were believed to be staying. They said three men were believed to be wounded.

China summons Japan envoy again for release of fishermen

BEIJING (AP)—China's most senior foreign policy official increased pressure on Japan on Sunday by summoning its ambassador to again demand the immediate release of Chinese fishermen and their boat detained near disputed islands. The Chinese vessel collided with Japanese patrol boats after ignoring warnings to leave the area and refusing to stop for an inspection last week, Japan's coast guard said. China has said the confrontation could damage its relations with Japan, underlining the sensitivity of the territorial dispute over the East China Sea, one of several that trouble China's ties with its Asian neighbors.

Thousands march in Indian Kashmir; police attacked

SRINAGAR, India (AP)—Police fired warning shots and tear gas to disperse hundreds of demonstrators who attacked a police post and burned government offices in Kashmir, as tens of thousands of people took to the streets to protest Indian rule in the Himalayan region, officials said. At least seven civilians and six police officers were injured at the police post near the Hazrat Bal shrine on the outskirts of Srinagar, Indian-administered Kashmir's main city, after prayers Saturday, a police officer said. Tens of thousands of people held protest marches across Indian Kashmir, the officer said on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk to reporters. Kashmiri Muslims celebrated the Eid al-Fitr festival Saturday, marking the end of the fasting month of Ramadan.

World

Iran prosecutor ready to release American woman

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—A senior Iranian prosecutor said Sunday that authorities will release an American woman on $500,000 bail because of health problems, more than a year after she was jailed with two other Americans and accused of spying.

The news came during a weekend of start-and-stop announcements about the release of Sarah Shourd, who was detained with two friends, Shane Bauer and Josh Fattal, along the Iran-Iraq border on July 31, 2009. Shourd's mother has said she has been denied treatment for serious health problems, including a breast lump and precancerous cervical cells.

There were no details on when she would be released.

"Based on reports and the approval of the relevant judge about the sickness of Ms. Shourd, her detention was converted to $500,000, and if the bail is deposited, she can be released," the official IRNA news agency quoted prosecutor Abbas Jafari Dowlatabadi as saying.

He said the decision has been relayed to her lawyer.

Shourd, who has been held in solitary confinement, was to have been released Saturday as an act of clemency to mark the end of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan after the intervention of Iran's president, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. But the judiciary abruptly halted that planned release, indicating such a decision would have to first go through the courts.

Iran has accused the three Americans of illegally crossing the border and spying in a case that has deepened tensions with Washington—which has led the push for tougher sanctions on Iran over its nuclear program.

The prosecutor said the two other Americans would remain in custody.

AP

In this May 20, 2010 file photo, American hikers Shane Bauer, left, Sarah Shourd, center, and Josh Fattal, sit at the Esteghlal Hotel in Tehran, Iran.

Mexican police neutralize car bomb in border city

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Mexican police carried out the controlled detonation of a car bomb Saturday in the troubled border city of Ciudad Juarez, across from Texas.

A phone tip around midnight led authorities to a dead body in a car in a shopping center parking lot, the federal Public Safety Department said in a statement. In a second car, police found the bomb.

Agents deactivated the device and removed most of the explosive material to analyze it before safely detonating the vehicle, the department said. There were no injuries.

Juarez is the same city where drug traffickers staged the first successful car bombing in Mexico, killing three people in July.

There have been three other vehicle explosions in recent weeks in Ciudad Victoria, capital of the border state of Tamaulipas.

Ciudad, across from El Paso, Texas, has been one of the cities most affected by Mexico's drug violence. More than 2,100 people have been murdered there so far this year—putting it on pace to surpass its previous high of 2,700, set last year.

Across the country, more than 28,000 people have been killed since December 2006, when President Felipe Calderon launched a military offensive against the cartels soon after taking office.

In the central state of Morelos, police discovered nine bodies in clandestine graves Saturday in the same area where four more were recently found.

The Public Safety Department said in a separate statement that all 13 victims were believed to have been killed on the orders of U.S.-born Edgar "La Barbie" Valdez Villarreal, one of the alleged kingpins fighting for control of Morelos.

Valdez was captured Aug. 30 by federal police.

Different pope, different times for British trip

By VICTOR L. SIMPSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

VATICAN CITY (AP)—The Falklands war was in full swing and John Paul II was in London as the first pope ever to set foot on English soil.

Even as he snubbed Margaret Thatcher and prayed for peace in implicit criticism of Britain—whose troops were battling Catholic Argentines—the pontiff received a rapturous welcome and was described in glowing terms by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

His successor, Benedict XVI, can expect a far cooler—if not at times downright hostile—reception in his upcoming state visit.

It all underscores the contrasting public fortunes of the two leaders of the church. John Paul was an international superstar who could send a thrill even through non-Catholics and made many people forget how at odds he was with their personal views. Benedict seems to step into crisis and controversy at every turn when he ventures abroad on bridge-building missions.

In 1982, Robert Runcie, then Archbishop of Canterbury, said John Paul came to Britain "with the grace of a pilgrim and a prophet." Runcie's successor, Rowan Williams, told the BBC in April that Benedict would be welcomed "as a valued partner, and that's about it."

Benedict's visit has been fraught with controversy ever since it was announced by Buckingham Palace in May.

There have been complaints over the costs to British taxpayers for the Sept. 16-19 trip, anger and revulsion over the church's clerical sex abuse crisis, and a feeling of betrayal among Anglicans upset over the Vatican's efforts to woo conservative members of their church.

Although the Polish-born John Paul held virtually the same views on church doctrine as Benedict, he was at the height of his popularity at the time, celebrated for standing up to communism during the Cold War. His charisma helped him make strong connections with people who did not share his faith or conservative social views. Problems of pedophile priests were already brewing but kept from public knowledge, only coming out when the abuse scandal exploded in the United States toward the end of his papacy.

Top British politicians say they welcome Benedict's visit, but seem compelled to state their differences with him.

During a televised debate in April before general elections, David Cameron, now prime minister, said he wanted the visit to be a success but "do I agree with everything the pope says? No."

"I don't agree with him about contraception. I don't agree with him about homosexuality and I think the Catholic church has got some very, very serious work to do to unearth and come to term with some of the appalling things that have happened and they need to do that but I do think we should respect people of faith," Cameron said.

AP

Pope Benedict XVI gestures during the general audience in the Paul VI hall at the Vatican, Wednesday, Sept. 8, 2010.

Benedict will meet with the queen at a castle in Scotland shortly after arriving and with Cameron in London on Saturday.

John Paul's visit was two years in the planning, but only confirmed days before departure because of complaints from Argentina, which was at war with Britain after invading the Falkland islands, which it claims are its own and refers to as Las Malvinas. The pope agreed to visit Argentina shortly after returning from England, where he prayed for peace during every public event.

"We cannot forget that an armed conflict is taking place—brothers in Christ fighting in a war that imperils peace in the world," he said during one Mass.

John Paul also dropped plans to meet with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher; the official reason was to stress that it was a pastoral and not a state visit.

But he did meet with Queen Elizabeth, whose ancestor, Henry VIII, established the Church of England after breaking with Rome in 1534 over the Vatican's refusal to annul his first marriage to Catherine of Aragon.

John Paul said he felt "deeply moved" to be the first pope on English soil in what was described as a pilgrimage of reconciliation to a country that officially discriminated against Catholics until the 1820s.

Catholics, less than 10 percent of the population, still face a problem marrying into the royal family. They can marry in, but the royal loses his or her place in the succession.

There were scattered demonstrations during John Paul's visit, mainly by small groups calling the pope "Anti-Christ" and by followers of the Rev. Ian Paisley, the militant Northern Ireland Protestant leader.

In contrast, for this papal visit, a group called Protest the Pope has lined up gay, feminist and secular groups to stage protests against the visit—and there has even been talk of serving the pope with an arrest warrant because of the abuse scandal.

Although Benedict has not been accused of any crime, some British lawyers have questioned whether the pope should have immunity as a head of state and whether he could be prosecuted under the principle of universal jurisdiction for an alleged systematic cover-up of sexual abuses by priests.

The German-born Benedict has never sought to be a crowd pleaser like his predecessor, having assumed the papacy after two decades in the back rooms of power as the Vatican's ideological chief. At 83, he is 20 years older than John Paul when he made his British pilgrimage and drew an estimated 2 million people to his events.

Benedict, who speaks good English among other European languages, seems more comfortable among small groups.

Monsignor Mark Langham, the British-born Vatican official in charge of relations with Anglicans, recalled the excitement of John Paul's visit as he spoke to The Associated Press at the English College seminary in Rome's historic center. Forty-four of its former students were martyred in England in past centuries.

"The Falklands war was going on, the forthcoming marriage of Prince Charles and Lady Diana had just been announced, the pope was coming. We felt we were living through history. The enthusiasm, the excitement was something you could feel."

He acknowledged that the atmosphere over Benedict's trip is not the same.

"We're in a different era now, and Pope Benedict is not Pope John Paul II. I think for various reasons there have been problems and issues. What I have noticed is that in the last few weeks and days, excitement is ratcheting up and I think people are beginning to take up and take notice about what's going to happen."

And what will happen on this visit?

"I think it will be one perhaps where people came to see John Paul, they'll come to hear Pope Benedict," Langham said.

Focus

Unusual bond heals wounds over Japan's WWII POWs

By ELLIOT SPAGAT
Associated Press Writer

CARLSBAD, California (AP)—Lester Tenney was stunned to receive a call that Japan's new ambassador to the United States would see him. He had tried for years to seek an apology from Japanese officials for the atrocities he witnessed and endured as a prisoner of war during World War II.

His letters and calls seeking justice and reconciliation were routinely ignored.

Then, on Veterans Day 2008, more than 63 years after the end of the war, Tenney was visiting Arlington National Cemetery when word finally came. The Japanese Embassy was closed for the holiday, so Ichiro Fujisaki invited the former POW to his home. The two men and their wives sipped tea. The ambassador asked how he might help.

The unexpected rapprochement led to friendship, and to Sunday's trip to Japan by a group of American POWs, including Tenney. Although Japan has hosted former POWs from other nations since 1995, it will be the country's first ever sponsored trip aimed at reconciling with American POWs.

Tenney says he plans to bow to the Japanese out of respect and courtesy for the first time as he meets with lawmakers and foreign ministry officials, not out of fear as he did during the war.

"It's going to mean we're finally treated like first-class citizens," Tenney said at his home in a gated retirement community near San Diego, a fountain gurgling in his small Japanese garden.

At 90, Tenney remains a barrel-chested raconteur with a booming voice and sharp wit.

Fujisaki, 63, was born two years after the war ended. He had been on the job only five months, but knew that Tenney had not received any response from Japanese officials.

"This request came and we thought, 'Why not, if this gentleman wants to meet us?'" the ambassador said in an interview with The Associated Press.

The conversation had been welling in Tenney since April 9, 1942, when the United States surrendered on the Philippines' Bataan Peninsula, ending a four-month battle. Thousands died walking for days in tropical heat to prison camp.

Tenney doesn't remember how many prisoners he saw beheaded, killed by bayonet or shot to death on the infamous Bataan Death March—dozens, perhaps more than 100. Many more died in the next few weeks from disease.

He told the ambassador that he saw a Japanese guard order two Americans to bury a malaria-stricken mate alive because he was too weak to stand. When they refused, the guard shot one dead. The next Americans pulled from the line buried both soldiers—one dead, one alive and screaming.

"When you have to watch your own friends get killed and you have to stand there and can't do a thing, it is awful," Tenney said in a later interview, his voice shaking with emotion. "It stays with you forever."

For three years, Tenney worked 12-hour days in a Japanese coal mine, watching men die in droves from disease. He ate only three small bowls of rice a day. He remembers an American medic who amputated limbs with a steak knife, without anesthetics.

Tenney told the ambassador that afternoon that he had three wishes: an apology from the Japanese government, an apology from Japanese companies that enslaved the POWs, and a government-paid trip to Japan for American POWs.

After darkness fell, Fujisaki opened the taxi door for the Tenneys. The ambassador's wife kissed them goodbye.

As the men exchanged letters over the next few months, Tenney began pressing the ambassador to say a few words at the last annual convention of American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor in May 2009. The group was disbanding after 63 years because too few veterans remained.

Fujisaki wavered until the last day. He said he decided to go only after Tenney stopped insisting that he deliver good news to the former POWs, that his presence would be enough.

> *"When you have to watch your own friends get killed and you have to stand there and can't do a thing, it is awful. It stays with you forever."*

The ambassador wrote his remarks on the flight to San Antonio. He brought a copy of a 1995 speech in which Japan Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama acknowledged widespread damage that the Japanese military caused during the war. Fujisaki thought he could quote Murayama's speech directly, even though it did not mentioned POWs.

"You're entering a lion's den," Tenney told the ambassador as they neared the podium.

The speech that followed was unprecedented,

Fujisaki said Japan's regrets over World War II extended to its treatment of POWs, including those captured in Bataan. It was the first—and still the only—time that a Japanese official has explicitly apologized to POWs.

The ambassador, who spent a year of junior high school in Seattle and attended Brown and Stanford universities, said he consulted no one in Tokyo about the remarks.

"I felt that we should not miss that opportunity," he said.

About half the audience of 500 people—70 POWs and the rest descendants—gave him a standing ovation, while others jeered or stayed silent, according to Tenney.

After lunch in his hotel room, Fujisaki told Tenney that he was trying to arrange a trip to Japan for the POWs. Foreign ministry officials say Fujisaki was instrumental in getting Japan to earmark 18 million yen ($213,000) in March for the visit.

Japan has previously hosted POWs from Britain, Australia and the Netherlands. Fujisaki says he has no idea why it took so long to invite the Americans. Tenney suspects resentment over the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki contributed to the delay.

Tenney, who taught accounting and finance at San Diego State and Arizona State universities after the war, worked with the U.S. State Department to pick the 14-member delegation. The first 10 POWs he called were unfit to travel, so he created a raffle.

The final count for the eight-day trip starting Sunday is six POWs and six of their relatives, plus two daughters of POWs who died.

After a short time in Tokyo, each POW will travel to a city of his choice. Some will visit the factories, docks or mines where they worked.

Tenney and his wife of 50 years, Betty, won't visit his old mine or the former employer who has ignored his requests to meet. The mine operator, formerly Mitsui Mining Co. and now Nippon Coke and Engineering Co., did not return calls seeking comment.

Fujisaki, who isn't going on the trip, said he cannot force Japanese companies to participate—the only one of Tenney's three wishes he didn't satisfy.

The Tenneys will instead visit the grave of a Japanese man in Matsuyama who stayed with them as an exchange student in San Diego in 1968 and became a close friend. The Tenneys went to Japan for the man's wedding in 1988 and joined the newlyweds on their honeymoon.

The first thing that Fujisaki mentioned when asked to recall his initial meeting with Tenney was how the former POW described his friendship with the Japanese man, Toru Tasaka, who was dying of cancer at the time.

"My wife was very moved and had tears in her eyes," the ambassador said.

Tenney says his friend taught him not to hate the Japanese people, but he still resented the government.

The former POW thought of a prison camp officer who shouted that Japan would treat the American prisoners like dogs for the rest of their lives.

"Over the years asking for a meeting and asking for different things and getting nothing, it made me feel that the Japanese still felt the same way," Tenney said, "that we were lower than dogs and we were cowards."

Next week's visit, though, means that change has at long last come.

"By going there next week, it's an indication that I'm going to go with my head held high."

Associated Press writer Mari Yamaguchi in Tokyo contributed to this report.

Health & Fitness

5 shoes to rock your world

By JULIE DEARDORFF
Chicago Tribune

Stability used to be a good thing in a shoe. But the current "fitness" footwear craze takes the opposite approach: By subtly throwing your body off balance, these shoes supposedly help you lose weight and sculpt muscles. The secret is the shoe's unstable sole.

To keep your footing, your body supposedly recruits and strengthens smaller, little-used muscles around the ankle joint. Shoe companies say the increase in muscle activity can lead to more calories burned, improved posture and toned leg muscles. Yet unstable or rocker-bottom shoes have been used for years as therapeutic footwear and there's little evidence they provide benefits that the manufacturers claim, said Swedish researcher Nerrolyn Ramstrand, who has studied whether instability shoes can improve balance.

Experts emphasize that it's the squats and lunges—not the shoes—that will revolutionize America's glutes.

Still, some published studies show that unstable shoes do change your body's kinetic patterns and can help reduce knee pain from osteoarthritis. Unstable MBT sandals can reduce moderate lower back pain in golfers, according to one of Nigg's studies, published last year in the Clinical Journal of Sports Medicine.

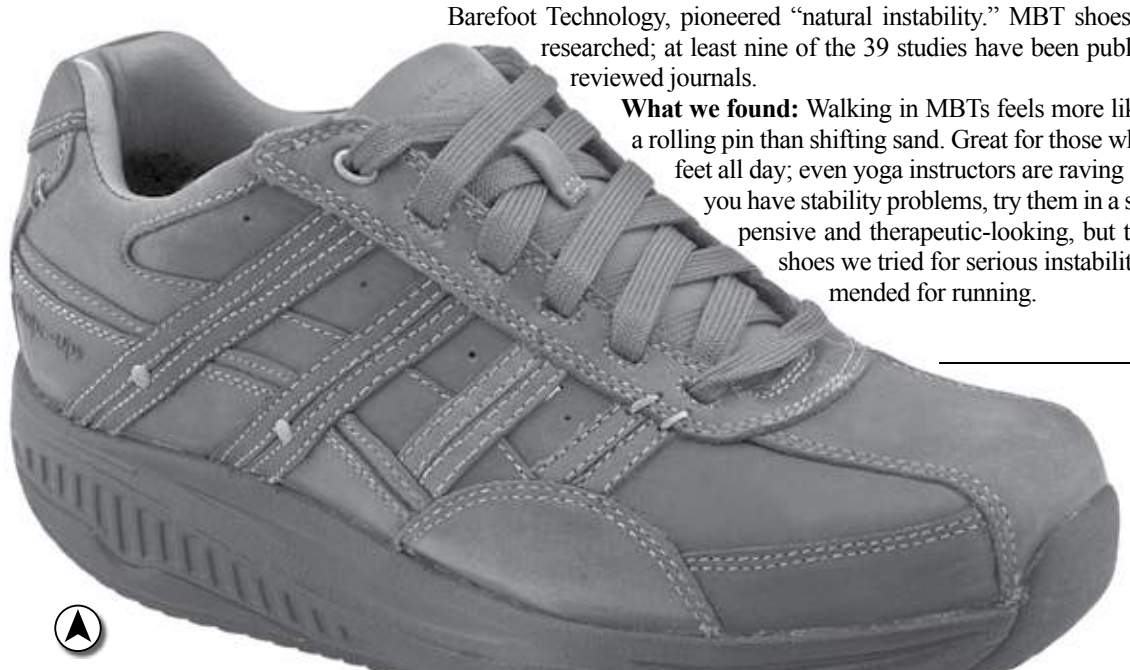
Shoes "used to just be for protection and fashion," said Nigg, who wears MBTs to help improve his skiing. "Now they're training devices that do something to the body's system."

When I tested five pairs of instability shoes—two pairs of walking shoes, one pair of running shoes and two pairs of sandals—I found they all did one thing: increased mindfulness. Walking felt different, and the shoes made me want to do more of it. Although some brands can be pricey and most claims are inflated, any shoe that inspires more exercise is worth a try. Here's a closer look at each shoe we tried:

MBT Fora Silver ($245. mbt.com)

About the shoe: Dramatically curved rocker-bottom sole simulates walking barefoot on sand and engages core muscles. MBT, which stands for Masai Barefoot Technology, pioneered "natural instability." MBT shoes are the most researched; at least nine of the 39 studies have been published in peer-reviewed journals.

What we found: Walking in MBTs feels more like pushing off a rolling pin than shifting sand. Great for those who are on their feet all day; even yoga instructors are raving about them. If you have stability problems, try them in a safe place. Expensive and therapeutic-looking, but the best of the shoes we tried for serious instability. Not recommended for running.



Skechers Shape-ups XF: Extended Fitness for Women ($110, skechers.com)

About the shoe: Rocker-bottom curved sole simulates walking on soft sand. They come with an instructional DVD (start by walking in them 25 to 45 minutes a day) and a few exercises, which can also be done in traditional cushioned shoes.

What we found: Super-comfy and, unlike with the other brands, I was not embarrassed to wear these in public. The rocker bottom feels less curved than MBT; after a while they start to feel normal, which may diminish the effect. Priced in line with regular running shoes.

Reebok's RunTone ($100, reebok.com)

About the shoe: No visible rocker sole. Instead, "eight balance pods with moving air are built into the sole to increase energy absorption with every step," said John Lynch, head of U.S. marketing and merchandising for Reebok. "The effects are similar to running on a soft, sandy beach."

What we found: Springy, versatile, comfortable shoe that doesn't look like a "fitness" shoe. Will not throw you wildly off stride. Reebok's similar EasyTone, designed for walkers, features more instability than the RunTone. I used them for running, walking and strength training; simply wearing these made me want to work out more.

Trim treads ($39.99, trimtreads.com)

About the shoe: The severe cut of the shoe forces you to step on the ball of your foot, which may engage muscles in your legs, buttocks and core. The company says the shoes are similar to a combination workout on a bosu/balance board and a step machine.

What we found: Impossible to walk in. But if you can survive 30 minutes, your calves may hurt. Though designed by an OB-GYN to improve circulation in pregnant women, they take instability to a new level—which might not be what you want, especially if you're pregnant. Do not drive in these shoes or wear them in a wet area. Ugly, but a good way to get attention.

Fitflop Walkstar sandal ($49.95, fitflop.com)

About the shoe: The middle of the shoe contains what the company calls "muscle-loading microwobbleboard midsole technology" to engage your muscles for a longer period as you walk. But there's no rigorous evidence showing they tone any better than other shoes or sandals.

What we found: Cushy and sporty, but I found them difficult to walk in. In fact, podiatrist Megan Leahy warns that "all flip-flops can exacerbate foot problems due to contractures of foot and toe muscles during gait in a subconscious attempt to keep the shoe on."

Personal Trainer

The joy of kickball

Adult kickball leagues are growing fast, and although the sport has a detailed rule book, it lets grownups play like kids again.

10 in. (25 cm) playground ball
Pitch: Ball must roll, not bounce higher than 1 ft. (30 cm)
Head referee
60 ft. (18 m), or about 20 paces
Kick at or behind home plate
First-base referee
Strike zone 1 ft. (30 cm) above and to each side of home plate
Outs: Similar to baseball
• Runner touched or hit below shoulders with ball when off base is out
• Stealing bases, leading off base not allowed
• Runners can advance only one base when ball is overthrown
Walk: Four pitches that bounce or miss strike zone
Age: Must be 21 or older
Players on field: Eight to 11, at least four men, four women
Inning: Three outs
Game: Five innings
For more information: www.worldkickball.com
FOUL!
FAIR!
FOUL!
FAIR!
© 2010 MCT
Source: World Adult Kickball Association
Graphic: Paul Trap

Life & Style

Sofia Coppola's 'Somewhere' wins top Venice prize

BY SHERI JENNINGS
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

VENICE, Italy (AP)—Sofia Coppola's "Somewhere," the tale of an actor who sees the emptiness of his existence through the eyes of his child, walked away with the top Golden Lion prize at the Venice film festival.

The jury, headed by director Quentin Tarantino, unanimously chose Coppola's film as the best movie at the 11-day annual festival.

The buzz in the final days of the festival had pegged "Somewhere" as a sure winner, and on Saturday the jury appeared to have had no doubts, either.

"This film enchanted us from its first screening," Tarantino said. "It has the artistry we were looking for in a Golden Lion" winner, he told the closing ceremony.

Coppola has described the film, which made its world premiere at Venice, as a "portrait of today's L.A."

"Somewhere" is the fourth feature by Coppola, who is also one of the few female directors ever to be nominated for an Academy Award—for "Lost in Translation".

In "Somewhere," Stephen Dorff plays a Hollywood star whose somewhat empty life is enriched by the arrival his daughter, played by Elle Fanning. The film takes place nearly entirely in hotels, mostly the Chateau Marmont in Los Angeles.

AP
Director Sofia Coppola shows her Golden Lion prize just received for her film Somewhere at the end of the award ceremony at the 67th edition of the Venice Film Festival in Venice, Italy, Saturday, Sept. 11, 2010.

Coppola, 39, herself grew up in the world of film thanks to her father, director Francis Ford Coppola. When presenting the film, Coppola reminisced that she and her family spent a lot of time growing up in hotels where her father was out on location while filming.

When the film was screened at Venice, early in the festival, Coppola told reporters her father "loved" it.

"Thanks to my dad for teaching me," Coppola said, accepting the award.

Other awards included the Silver Lion for best director, which went to Alex de la Iglesia for his "Balada triste de Trompeta" ("A Sad Trumpet Ballad"). The Spanish director also won the best screenplay award for the film.

The top actor award was given to Vincent Gallo, who played a terror suspect plotting his escape in "Essential Killing," by Polish director Jerzy Skolimowski. Best actress honors were awarded to Ariana Lebed, a Greek actress who discovers herself through her friendships, in "Attenberg," a film by Greek director Athina Rachel Tsangari.

WINNERS' LIST

Here is a list of winners at the 67th Venice Film Festival, which ended Saturday:

- **Golden Lion for Best Film:** "Somewhere" by Sofia Coppola.
- **Silver Lion for Best Director:** Alex de la Iglesia for "Balada Triste de Trompeta."
- **Special Jury Prize:** "Essential Killing," directed by Jerzy Skolimowski.
- **Best Actor:** Vincent Gallo in "Essential Killing."
- **Best Actress:** Ariane Labed in "Attenberg."
- **Marcello Mastroianni Award for Best Young Actor or Actress:** Mila Kunis in "Black Swan."
- **Best Screenplay:** Alex de la Iglesia for "Balada Triste de Trompeta."
- **Special Lion for Overall Work:** Monte Hellman.

Woman retracts previous claim at Anna Nicole trial

By LINDA DEUTSCH
AP SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A key witness at the Anna Nicole Smith drug conspiracy trial retracted previous statements and testified Friday that she never saw defendant Howard K. Stern or anyone else inject Smith with anything.

Quethlie Alexie, who worked as a nanny for the celebrity model in the Bahamas, acknowledged under tough cross-examination that she had signed a sworn affidavit saying she saw Stern inject Smith with a white substance.

She then retracted that claim and a number of other statements.

Stern's attorney, Steve Sadow, asked, "You did not see anyone inject anything into Anna Nicole?"

"No, I did not," Alexie testified.

"And that is the truth?" Sadow asked.

"Yes, I never said I saw anyone," the witness said, speaking through a Creole interpreter.

Sadow then read from the affidavit filed as part of a 2007 lawsuit by Smith's mother in which Smith is referred to as Mrs. Marshall, her legal name.

"Didn't you say, 'I personally observed a white substance being heated in a spoon by Mrs. Marshall in her bathroom. I then observed Mr. Stern tie a band on her arm and inject the substance into her arm,'" Sadow said.

At first, Alexie said she couldn't understand the question, but when Sadow repeated it, she said, "One time I saw something tied on her arm but not the syringe."

Sadow tried to ask if she had changed her story because the autopsy on Smith showed no needle tracks on her arms. But the prosecution objected, and the judge barred the question.

Alexie has testified that she saw Stern, who was Smith's lawyer-boyfriend, and Dr. Khristine Eroshevich, another defendant, take Smith into a bathroom. When they left, she found a bloody syringe, cotton and a burned spoon of liquid, Alexie said.

Eroshevich's lawyer Brad Brunon asked Alexie why the witness did not mention the items in her first affidavit provided to an attorney in the Bahamas.

"I did speak about it, but they didn't put it in," the witness said.

He asked if she began making those statements when she learned she could sell her story for a lot of money. She denied doing that.

Campbell gets 'her dance on' at Dolce & Gabbana

AP
Naomi Campbell performs with models to celebrate the 25th anniversary of her career in front of the Madison Avenue Dolce & Gabbana store, Friday, Sept. 10, 2010, in New York.

By SAMANTHA CRITCHELL
AP FASHION WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—You know what stops traffic? Naomi Campbell—and a dozen models imitating her—in leather hot pants, dancing on the sidewalk of Madison Avenue.

That was Campbell's contribution to Friday's Fashion's Night Out, a national retail event (and brainchild of Vogue editor Anna Wintour) aimed to spark sales in the sluggish economy.

Campbell used the Dolce & Gabbana store as her home base, getting unexpected visits from Tyson Beckford and photographer Patrick Demarchelier. Fans packed the store for Campbell's signature on T-shirts that show her at various times in her now 25-year career in modeling.

"I can't thank Domenico (Dolce) and Stefano (Gabbana) enough to do this for my 25th anniversary in modeling," Campbell said.

While she's had a rough ride in the press lately with her appearance at the Hague in Charles Taylor's war-crimes trial, Campbell has a close relationship with many fashion insiders, ticking off the names Marc Jacobs, Anna Sui, Stefano Pilati, John Galliano and the late Alexander McQueen as dear friends.

"I've had a great ride so far these 25 years, and I'm grateful. I have bonded with some designers. I vacation with Stefano and Domenico. I see them in the off-work time, I see them at a relaxing time," she said. "My friendships aren't based on if someone is giving me work, it's if we like each other."

Campbell, 40, said she does, in fact, sometimes go dancing in on her nights off, leaving her with the feeling that her performance for the crowd was somewhat natural. She even counted down the "five, six, seven, eight" that starts many professional numbers.

"I studied dance way back when, but I gave it up when I became a model. Sometimes I'm just a frustrated older woman who gets these moments when she can get her dance on."

Gallery shows both sides of Ansel Adams dispute

AP
Joyce and Mike Lee, of Glendale, Calif., inspect photographs attributed to Earl Brooks that are displayed alongside prints from the collection of Rick Norsigian at the Duncan Miller Gallery in Los Angeles on Saturday, Sept. 11, 2010.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A Los Angeles gallery is taking head-on the dispute over garage-sale pictures that the owner says are the early work of Ansel Adams.

The Duncan Miller Gallery is putting up 20 authentic prints by the renowned nature photographer in a brief show that opens Saturday.

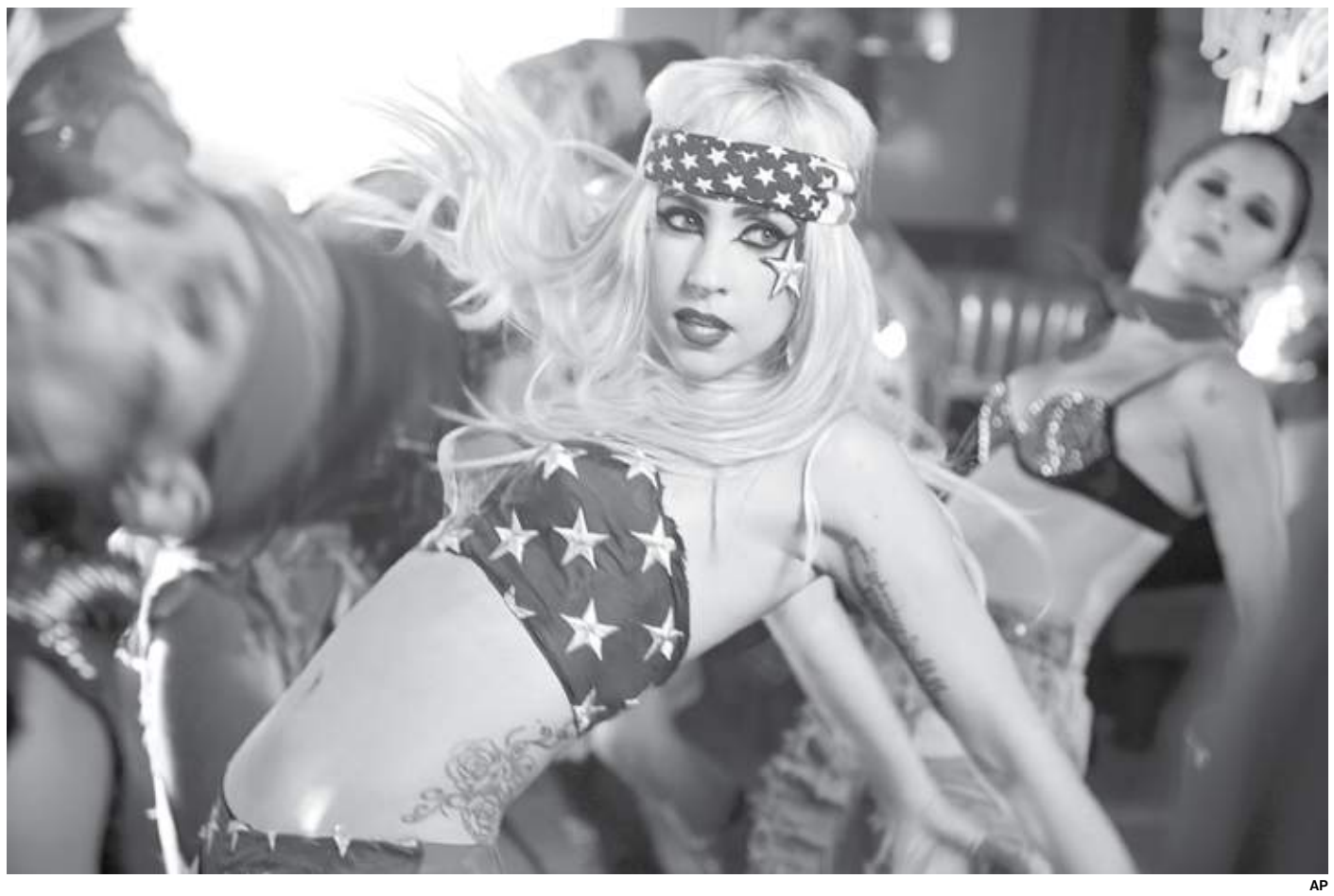
Next to those will be prints from the collection of Rick Norsigian of Fresno, who said he bought the glass negatives for $45 at a garage sale, then had them authenticated as the lost work of Adams.

Adams' representatives dispute that Norsigian's trove is the work of the photographer, who died in 1984.

Next to the garage-sale find, the gallery will hang the work of photo-hobbyist Earl Brooks, who Adams' family says is the real photographer behind Norsigian's images.

Lady Gaga, producer withdraw dueling NY lawsuits

By JENNIFER PELTZ
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER



AP

In this publicity image released by Interscope Records, Lady Gaga is shown during the filming of her music video for "Telephone."

NEW YORK (AP)—They may have had a bad romance, but now there's a cordial professional split between Lady Gaga and a music producer who said she ditched him as both a collaborator and a boyfriend after he helped launch her career.

Court papers filed this week show the Grammy Award-winning "Bad Romance" singer and songwriter-producer Rob Fusari agreed to dismiss the lawsuits each filed against the other in March in a Manhattan court.

He'd sought $30.5 million, but it's unclear whether they made any monetary deal.

"Lady Gaga and Rob Fusari have agreed to end their dispute amicably and wish each other well. There will be no further comment by either of them," the singer's camp said in a statement. A lawyer for Fusari didn't immediately respond to phone and e-mail messages Friday.

Fusari had said the pop-meets-performance-art sensation shoehorned him out of her lucrative career after he co-wrote such Gaga hits as "Paparazzi" and "Beautiful, Dirty, Rich," came up with her stage name and helped get her record deal.

Fusari—who has a producing credit on Lady Gaga's 2008 debut album, "The Fame"—met the singer two years before when she was still Stefani Germanotta, according to his lawsuit. He has a studio in Parsippany, New Jersey.

He said they forged both a romantic and a business relationship, both soured, and he was denied money their contract had entitled him to, including a 20 percent share of her song royalties. He said he'd gotten about $611,000 but was due far more.

"All business is personal," his lawsuit said. "When those personal relationships evolve into romantic entanglements, any corresponding business relationship usually follows the same trajectory so that when one crashes they all burn. That is what happened here."

Lady Gaga's lawyers had said Fusari was just an agent for her and got the then-inexperienced singer to sign an unfair agreement in 2006. Her lawsuit asked a court to void the "unlawful arrangement," or at least declare that Fusari wasn't owed what he claimed.

Lady Gaga won two Grammys in January: best dance recording, for "Poker Face," and best electronic/dance album, for "The Fame." She leads the field of nominees with 13 nods for this year's MTV Video Music Awards; the awards broadcast is set for Sunday.

Besides his work with Lady Gaga, Fusari has credits on such hits as Will Smith's "Wild, Wild West" and Destiny's Child's "Bootylicious."

Applegate, others star in 'Stand Up To Cancer'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Actresses Sofia Vergara and Christina Applegate were among the numerous celebrity cancer survivors cramming the red carpet Friday leading into the second "Stand Up To Cancer" telethon.

"Modern Family" star Vergara, 38, talked about beating thyroid cancer, which was diagnosed about 10 years ago.

"Well, I think cancer for me was a very hard experience in my life, because I was young and I had my kid," said the Colombian actress. "But I think it was also very good, because I changed the way I live my life. I think now I don't sweat the small stuff anymore. It makes you realize, it makes you change your priorities in life. So, I was very lucky that I was able to beat it, and I've been in remission for a very long time now. And I learned from it. I learned to live a better way," she said.

Virtually all of the others walking the press gauntlet also shared stories about how they or loved ones were affected by cancer. Among them: actresses Marcia Cross and Fran Drescher, sports figures Dorothy Hamill and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, musicians Neil Diamond and Kelly Osbourne.

Osbourne, 25, said her presence was solely due to her mother Sharon's battle with colon cancer. "I know how hard it is to watch somebody you love so much be so sick, and not know how to help them," Osbourne noted. "But the one thing that I did learn from it is that just being there and just helping my mom out, and just trying to cheer her up was all I really needed to do, because that's all she wanted."

The "Stand Up for Cancer" telethon, which aired on virtually all major television networks in the United States and in many countries worldwide, included taped appearances by actor Michael Douglas, who is currently battling throat cancer, and actor George Clooney, whose legendary aunt, actress and singer Rosemary Clooney, died from lung cancer in 2002. Others appearing on the telethon included actor Will Smith, musician Stevie Wonder and U.S. president Barack Obama.

The first "Stand Up To Cancer" telethon took place in 2008 and raised some $100 million for cancer research. A publicist for the event said a tally of this year's donations would not be available until later in the weekend.

The event was hosted by news anchors Diane Sawyer, Brian Williams and Katie Couric and produced by Film and TV producer Laura Ziskin, a cancer survivor.

Halle Berry happy with her Vogue cover

By SAMANTHA CRITCHELL
AP FASHION WRITER

AP

In this April 29, 2010 file photo, actress Halle Berry attends the 4th annual DKMS "Linked Against Leukemia" gala at Cipriani's 42nd Street in New York.

NEW YORK (AP)—Yeah, she's got an Oscar, but Halle Berry says that being on the cover of the all-important September issue of a fashion magazine is another big honor.

Berry is on the cover of this month's Vogue and she turned out Friday night at Fashion's Night Out at the Ralph Lauren store on Madison Avenue to sign copies for fans. She also posed for photographers with David Lauren and Vogue Editor-in-Chief Anna Wintour, the architect of this now-national shopping event.

"I know how important the night is for fashion, our industry and the economy, and there's so much going to charity," Berry said. "It's a win-win-win."

The NYC AIDS Fund has been tapped as a beneficiary of Fashion's Night Out.

On this night, Berry wore a black jacket and beaded, sheer top by Lauren — skinny black pants were by Rag & Bone. She also wore a Lauren gown at her cover shoot.

"I don't get to pick anything (for photo shoots). I think Anna does," she said. "I tried on lots of different things, and if you're not comfortable, you can't present your best self, so everyone made sure I was comfortable in what I was wearing."

She did have the benefit of seeing the issue early, several days before it hit stands—and she was happy with it.

Her fans must have been happy, too: Scores of them lined up for her autograph.

Wintour's advice to Berry was to use a Sharpie marker. "It's the only thing that works," said Wintour.

Franklin wants Berry to portray her in biopic

By MIKE HOUSEHOLDER
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

DETROIT (AP)—Aretha Franklin wants Halle Berry to show her some R-E-S-P-E-C-T and sign on to portray a younger version of the Queen of Soul in an upcoming biopic.

The 68-year-old singing legend sent out a press release this week revealing her choices for Hollywood stars to play top roles in a planned film about her life and career.

Besides Berry, Franklin says she wants another Academy Award winner—Denzel Washington—to play her father, the late C.L. Franklin, a prominent Baptist minister and civil rights leader in Detroit.

Her wish list also includes Academy Award nominee Terrence Howard as Motown star Smokey Robinson.

The movie, for which Franklin says she'll be reviewing the script next week, will be based on her autobiography, "Aretha: From These Roots," a best-seller a decade ago.

Messages seeking comment were left by The Associated Press on Friday for representatives of Berry, Washington and Howard.

In her release, Franklin says the actors in question are "enthusiastic about the project and have agreed to take on these roles, subject to further negotiation."

The statement says Washington, for one, "was very interested in the role," and Franklin "also had a very positive response from her in-person conversations with Terrence Howard and others."

Franklin is one of the most honored musicians in American history, having won numerous Grammys, including a lifetime achievement award; the National Medal of Arts; the Presidential Medal of Freedom and induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Her biggest hits include "(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman", "Chain of Fools," ''Freeway of Love" and her signature song, "Respect."

Bieber rocks downtown L.A.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Visitors to Staples Center and the adjacent L.A. Live plaza were treated to an unannounced free concert Friday when Justin Bieber took to an outdoor stage to rehearse his performance for Sunday's MTV Video Music Awards.

A crowd slowly gathered as the teen sensation and his team of dancers and musicians rehearsed for about two hours Friday afternoon. MTV representatives said they hadn't announced Bieber's outdoor rehearsal to avoid drawing the swarms of fans who have crowded the 16-year-old pop star's public appearances around the world.

Wearing a red varsity jacket with a sparkly "B" on the front, Bieber practiced his arrival to the outdoor stage in a cherry red 1957 Chevy Bel Air, chased by a pack of (precast) girls. Then, backed by a team of dancers and musicians, Bieber moonwalked and made a heart shape with his hands as he belted out his hit "Baby."

Passers-by wielded camera phones from behind barricades, and teenage admirers erupted in shrill screams anytime Bieber was within earshot. He smiled at them and flashed a peace sign with his fingers.

Though barely bigger than the troupe of pint-sized hip-hop dancers (age 9 through 13) who joined him on stage, Bieber acted like a seasoned pro.

"What's wrong with my drums? Like, I don't hear anything and it should be loud," he said after practicing a drum solo. "This has to be, like, an epic moment. It's ending the song."

Later, he complained that "the vocals are too loud in my ear and I can't hear the groove."

And when his wireless microphone pack fell to the floor, he casually gathered up the batteries and put the pack back in his pocket without missing a single lyric.

Bieber is set to perform on the same stage Sunday just outside the Nokia Theatre, where the Video Music Awards will be presented. Other performers include Drake, Kanye West and Eminem.

AP

Singer Justin Bieber performs at Madison Square Garden on Tuesday, Aug. 31, 2010 in New York.

Paramore, B.o.B., Bruno Mars prep for VMA medley

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Billed by MTV as the Video Music Awards "dream team," Paramore, Bruno Mars and B.O.B. had some fun on stage as they rehearsed the three-song medley they'll perform on Sunday's show.

During Saturday's rehearsal, Mars crooned "beautiful squirrels" instead of "beautiful girls" as he and rapper B.o.B. prepared to run through their hit, "Nothin' on You."

Later, Mars entertained himself and a few dozen workers inside the Nokia Theatre by singing The Police's 1978 hit "So Lonely."

"Why are you trying to sing higher than me?" Paramore lead singer Hayley Williams asked playfully over the microphone.

"Sorry," Mars sheepishly responded.

Not to be outdone, B.o.B. chimed in with a few verses from Cee Lo's expletive-laden new single. Mars accompanied him on piano.

Mars and B.o.B. also beatboxed between performances of their medley, which also includes the rapper's "Airplanes" and the rockers' "The Only Exception."

Williams confessed that she got a little turned around on the show's expansive, space-age set with its sloping canopies and multiple video screens.

"I thought the stage was over there," she said, running to her spot in front of the band. "I was lost, but now I'm found."

The three young entertainers are among a slate of performers expected at Sunday's ceremony, including Kanye West, Eminem, Usher and Mary J. Blige.

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

Schwarzenegger-Shriver daughter writes first book

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Katherine Schwarzenegger is following in the footsteps of her high-achieving parents, California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and Maria Shriver. The 20-year-old college student has written a book coming out next week that's aimed at helping girls gain confidence in their bodies and themselves. It's titled "Rock What You've Got: Secrets to Loving Your Inner and Outer Beauty" (Hyperion). Schwarzenegger says part of the motivation for the book was overhearing her preteen cousins talk about their desire to be thin and "sexy." She's also faced her own battle with self-esteem as a teenager in the public eye. The book is the first for Katherine Schwarzenegger, a junior at the USC Annenberg School for Communication & Journalism. Her mother, a former NBC News correspondent, also is an author.

Joey 'Jaws' Chestnut becomes burrito-eating champ

ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico (AP)—Competitive eater Joey Chestnut is now king of the burrito. Chestnut, also known as "Jaws," downed 47 burritos in 10 minutes at the New Mexico State Fair in Albuquerque on Saturday, beating the previous record of 33½.Known for his hot-dog eating, Chestnut won the annual July Fourth hot dog eating contest at New York's Coney Island for the fourth year in a row this summer. Chestnut, of San Jose, California, won $1,500 for the feat in New Mexico Saturday. The burritos in the Garcia's World Burrito Eating Championship were stuffed with beef, beans and the state's famous green chile. The event is sanctioned by the Major League Eating & International Federation of Competitive Eating, the world body that oversees all international professional eating contests.

Swift to sing about West debacle this year at VMAs

BY NEKESA MUMBI MOODY
AP MUSIC WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—Be warned, Kanye: Taylor Swift has written a song about you, and she's singing it at Sunday's MTV Video Music Awards.

The country superstar's win for best female video last year was marred when Kanye West got on stage and said it should have gone to Beyonce.

Swift

Swift wrote a song about the experience earlier this year, and a source familiar with the show said Saturday the 20-year-old will sing the new song at the VMAs, which will be aired live on MTV. The source did not want to be identified because of the sensitivity of the matter.

The song is on Swift's upcoming album "Speak Now," due out in October. The source said Swift performed it during a secret rehearsal in Los Angeles for the VMAs on Friday.

Though the West-Swift moment only lasted but a few minutes, it has endured for what seems to be a lifetime. It became a cultural watershed moment and gave West the most intense backlash of his career, despite an apology delivered later.

He dropped out of the spotlight, and last week on Twitter, said that he endured death wishes, had to cancel a tour and let go of employees. He again apologized to Swift and said he wrote a song for her and hoped she would sing it—and if not, he would perform it for her.

But instead, Swift will be singing her own song. The Grammy-winner is known for writing intensely personal songs, and skewering a few former boyfriends along the way.

After initially expressing her hurt, Swift has avoided addressing the matter.

West will also be a performer at the awards show; both are nominees. It's not clear what song he will sing.

Though there was anticipation of possible fireworks related to last year with West's performance, Swift's song all but guarantees it.

Sarah Ferguson to star in reality series next year

NEW YORK (AP)—Duchess of York Sarah Ferguson is coming to the Oprah Winfrey Network next year.

Ferguson

The network announced Friday that Ferguson will star in a six-part reality series called "Finding Sarah." On the series, Ferguson plans to open up about her lifelong battles with weight, relationships and finances as she shares with viewers her struggle to rebuild her life.

"Finding Sarah" is scheduled to premiere in early 2011.

The cable network will launch on Jan. 1. Its full name is OWN: The Oprah Winfrey Network. It is a joint venture of Winfrey's Harpo Inc. and Discovery Communications Inc. The network will replace the Discovery Health channel.

Restaurant gadabout leaves friend alone at their table

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My friend "Brooke" knows everyone in town. It creates a huge distraction when we dine in a restaurant because she is constantly looking around to see who else she knows. When she spots someone, she leaves me sitting at the table to go and say hello to the person.

If this happened once, it would be acceptable. But it occurs continually throughout the meal and interrupts our conversation. The fact that Brooke is constantly scouting the room for others to greet makes meaningful conversation impossible because her mind is never fully present.

I have reached the point of no longer wanting to dine with her although she is a good friend. How would you recommend resolving this?

ALONE AT THE TABLE, LAS CRUCES, N.M.

DEAR ALONE AT THE TABLE: Have a frank talk with Brooke, and explain how her rudeness has made you feel. If her behavior continues, then socialize with her in places where there are no distractions—like her home or yours.

She may be insecure and feel a compulsion to ingratiate herself with others, but constantly leaving you alone at the table shows lack of consideration for your feelings. Also, I find it curious that all those people she knows do not come by your table to greet her—and possibly be introduced, don't you?

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I work with a nice woman in a service-oriented job. She wears a full set of dentures—top and bottom. When she's nervous, she has a habit of "clicking" and adjusting them. It gets worse when she's had an energy drink.

Personally, I can ignore it. But I have heard comments from customers and co-workers who wonder if she's "on something"—like speed.

Should I tell her what people are saying or suggest she use a product to help keep the dentures in place? I would hate for her reputation to be ruined because of this nervous habit.

CARING CO-WORKER IN IOWA

DEAR CARING CO-WORKER: Take the woman aside and tell her privately that the clicking is distracting to customers and co-workers. She may not be aware that she is doing anything. Suggest that she discuss this with her dentist because her dentures may need adjusting—or, as you mentioned, her dentist can recommend a product to stabilize them. She may be more receptive if she hears it from a dental health professional.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I purchased some things at an estate sale. Later, while looking in a piece of luggage, I found a gold watch (with an appraisal of $7,000 that was in the same box) and a string of pearls.

What is the proper thing to do in a situation like this? The estate people are long gone, but there was a name on the appraisal. I tried doing a search on the Internet, but can't locate the person. Will I have bad karma if I keep these items? This person must have family somewhere.

FINDERS KEEPERS?

DEAR FINDERS KEEPERS?: If you have exhausted all avenues at your disposal to find the heirs, keep the items with a clear conscience.

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

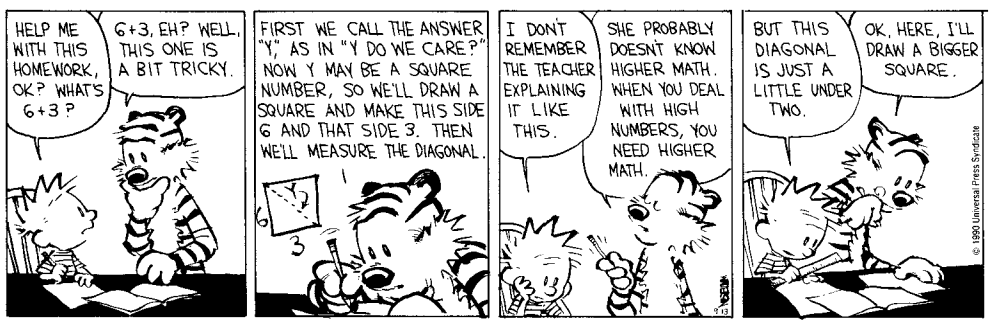
■■■

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


HELP ME WITH THIS HOMEWORK, OK? WHAT'S 6+3?
6+3, EH? WELL, THIS ONE IS A BIT TRICKY.
FIRST WE CALL THE ANSWER "Y," AS IN "Y DO WE CARE?" NOW Y MAY BE A SQUARE NUMBER, SO WE'LL DRAW A SQUARE AND MAKE THIS SIDE 6 AND THAT SIDE 3. THEN WE'LL MEASURE THE DIAGONAL.
I DON'T REMEMBER THE TEACHER EXPLAINING IT LIKE THIS.
SHE PROBABLY DOESN'T KNOW HIGHER MATH. WHEN YOU DEAL WITH HIGH NUMBERS, YOU NEED HIGHER MATH.
BUT THIS DIAGONAL IS JUST A LITTLE UNDER TWO.
OK, HERE, I'LL DRAW A BIGGER SQUARE.
© 1990 Universal Press Syndicate

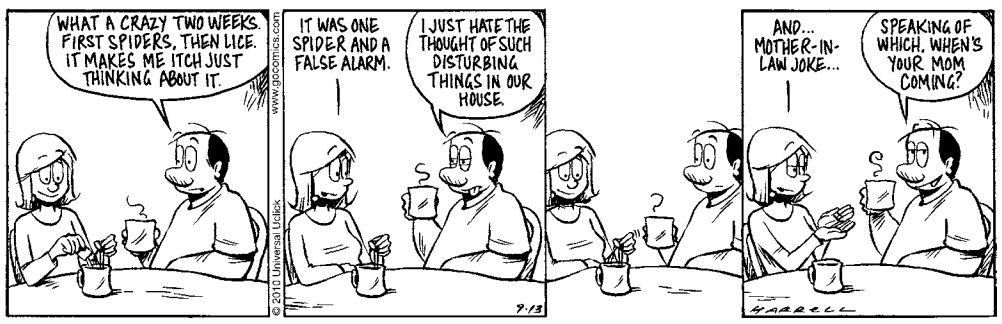
Garfield®

By Jim Davis

I HAVE AN EYE ON YOU
© 2010 PAWS, INC. All Rights Reserved.
Distributed by Universal Uclick
www.garfield.com
CAN ANYBODY OUT THERE SPARE A LIFE FOR THIS MAN?
JIM DAVIS 9-13

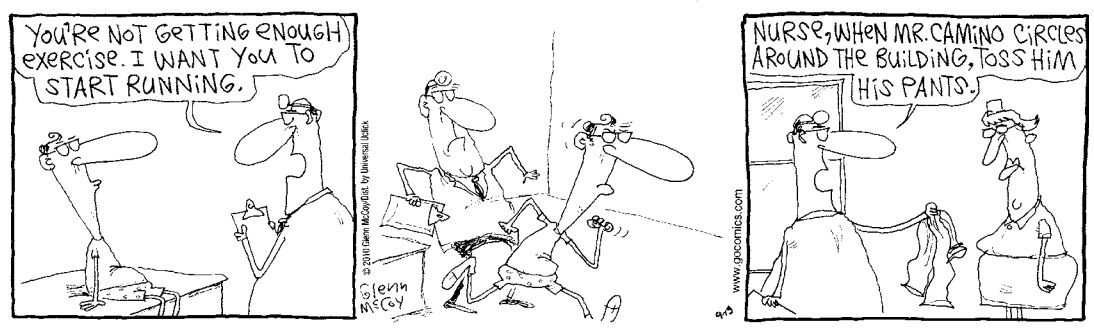
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


WHAT A CRAZY TWO WEEKS. FIRST SPIDERS, THEN LICE. IT MAKES ME ITCH JUST THINKING ABOUT IT.
IT WAS ONE SPIDER AND A FALSE ALARM.
I JUST HATE THE THOUGHT OF SUCH DISTURBING THINGS IN OUR HOUSE.
AND... MOTHER-IN-LAW JOKE...
SPEAKING OF WHICH, WHEN'S YOUR MOM COMING?
© 2010 Universal Uclick
www.gocomics.com
9-13
HARRELL

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


You're NOT GETTING ENOUGH exercise. I WANT YOU TO START RUNNING.
© 2010 Glenn McCoy/dist. by Universal Uclick
NURSE, WHEN MR. CAMINO CIRCLES AROUND THE BUILDING, TOSS HIM HIS PANTS.
www.gocomics.com
9-13

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Lived
4 Sprite
7 Rum cake
11 Performances
13 Melody
14 PC symbol
15 Biblical pronoun
16 Earl Grey, e.g.
17 Peruse
18 Lukewarm
20 One
22 Clunky boat
24 Stick together
28 They usually end "amen"
32 Milk dispenser?
33 Timber wolf
34 Intention
36 Culture medium
37 Exhaust
39 Team members
41 Subordinate bureaucrat
43 Commuters' choice
44 Dazzle
46 Praise
50 Lotion additive
53 Yule fuel
55 Greek vowel
56 Satan's purchase
57 Witness
58 Ballerina's frill
59 Click through the channels
60 Shade source
61 D.C. figure, for short

DOWN
1 Power measure
2 Rue the run
3 Put an end to
4 Chow down
5 Stead
6 Swiss money
7 The altogether
8 Expert
9 Constrictor type
10 Moreover
12 "Go right ahead"
19 Payable
21 Debtor's letters
23 Lingerie item
25 Advantage
26 Caboose's position
27 Blunders
28 Addition sign
29 Parks of civil rights fame
30 Help in mischief
31 Taste the wine
35 World Series org.
38 Butter square
40 Diving bird
42 Beat
45 Christmas song
47 Decorate
48 Bart Simpson's school bus driver
49 Author Bellow
50 Donkey
51 "Skip to My —"
52 "— Town"
54 Jewel

Solution time: 24 mins.

■	S	U	R	G	E	■	P	O	O	L	S	■
I	O	N	I	A	N	■	A	D	R	I	A	N
B	U	B	B	L	E	■	G	O	B	B	L	E
E	R	A	■	A	M	B	E	R	■	B	I	X
A	C	R	E	■	Y	E	A	■	M	E	N	U
M	E	S	S	Y	■	E	N	C	O	R	E	S
■	■	■	S	O	C	■	T	U	N	■	■	■
S	E	V	E	N	U	P	■	R	E	B	E	L
E	X	E	S	■	R	I	D	■	Y	O	Y	O
A	P	R	■	B	L	E	A	K	■	B	E	G
R	A	B	B	L	E	■	N	I	B	B	L	E
S	T	A	R	E	R	■	A	E	R	I	E	S
■	S	L	O	W	S	■	S	L	A	N	T	■

Saturday's answer 9-13

1	2	3	■	■	4	5	6	■	7	8	9	10
11			12	■	13			■	14			
15				■	16			■	17			
18				19	■	20		21		■	■	■
■	■	■	22		23	■	24			25	26	27
28	29	30				31	■	32				
33				■	34		35	■	36			
37				38	■	39		40				
41					42	■	43			■	■	■
■	■	■	44			45	■	46		47	48	49
50	51	52		■	53		54	■	55			
56					57				58			
59				■	60			■	■	61		

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Greg Rusedski, 37; Rosie Perez, 46; Jane Curtin, 63; Swoosie Kurtz, 66

Happy Birthday: You'll have to be creative when it comes to work and earning more money. A little ingenuity will go a long way. Doors will open if you rid yourself of burdens or responsibilities that don't really belong to you. Get things in order and move on to bigger and better times. Your numbers are 8, 13, 18, 24, 28, 31, 44

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): An impulsive move will turn out well. A passionate approach to life, love and work will help you maintain the status quo. Don't let a bully stand in your way when you have what it takes to outsmart and maneuver your way to victory. ✪✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Avoid emotional decisions or impossible situations. Deception is apparent when dealing with friends, children or anyone trying to keep a secret. Don't give in to emotional blackmail. ✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): You will face opposition if you are overtly competitive. Love and romance are highlighted. Make sure you spend time nurturing the relationships that mean the most to you. Personal changes to your appearance will be noticed. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Take care of responsibilities first but don't let guilt keep you from something you want to do. If you are organized, you can fit everything into your schedule, meeting the demands being put on you and satisfying your own needs. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Uncertainty will lead to a lost opportunity. Look beyond the obvious. Romance is heightened and must be fit into your busy agenda. You will gain insight into personal issues if you listen to what a loved one shares with you. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): The only way things will happen is if you make it so. Don't let financial uncertainties be your excuse for not accomplishing. Instead, find a cost effective way to get things done. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Letting depression limit what you can do is a waste of time. If you aren't happy with the way you look or how much you know, move forward to achieve the style you want. Stop dwelling on the negative. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Trust what you know to be fact. Don't let emotional issues at home or work cloud your vision. Keep your thoughts and plans out in the open, as secrets will be revealed, making you look bad. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You may be very enthusiastic and that's OK, but don't overshadow someone who can make a difference to the outcome of what you are working toward. Concentrate your energy on creating a better home environment. Romance is in the stars. ✪✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): You have to be stern when it comes to how generous you are with friends and family. Focus on fixing up your place and making your money work for you. Long-term investments will pay off and keep your finances safe. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Listen to someone with experience and wisdom to help you through times of temptation. Changes you make will open doors and help you obtain a better lifestyle. A unique opportunity to make extra cash is apparent. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Someone you look up to will be able to sort through a personal problem you've been facing. Wisdom and experience offered may appear harsh at first but, once implemented, will ease your stress. A new attitude will paint the way to plenty of options. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are a perfectionist. You have an eye for what works and what doesn't. You will not give in to failure. You are practical and patient.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	6			4	9	7		5
5		9			7			
	2				5			8
					1	3	7	4
1								9
2	7	8	4					
7			5				6	
			6			5		2
4		6	9	3			8	

Difficulty Level ★ 9/13

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

4	5	1	6	2	8	3	9	7
8	3	9	1	7	5	6	2	4
7	6	2	4	9	3	8	1	5
5	7	6	3	8	1	2	4	9
9	1	3	5	4	2	7	6	8
2	4	8	9	6	7	1	5	3
3	9	4	7	1	6	5	8	2
1	2	7	8	5	9	4	3	6
6	8	5	2	3	4	9	7	1

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 9/11

©2010 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

ATHROSCOPIC SURGERY **Solution: 9 letters**

R	S	E	C	I	C	A	R	A	N	K	L	E	L	T
S	E	P	R	O	C	E	D	U	R	E	E	I	I	R
H	T	C	E	U	N	S	K	I	N	M	G	S	G	E
O	E	R	O	C	T	D	I	S	O	H	S	T	A	A
U	L	E	O	N	I	A	I	N	T	U	(E)	O	M	T
L	H	P	S	P	S	A	I	T	E	L	(B)	O	E	M
D	T	A	E	T	S	T	L	N	I	M	(U)	L	N	E
E	A	I	E	S	O	E	R	I	I	O	(T)	S	T	N
R	T	R	N	R	O	C	I	U	S	M	N	L	E	T
S	I	N	K	T	A	N	L	R	C	T	A	S	S	R
R	S	L	E	M	R	A	G	A	U	T	E	D	H	T
E	A	C	E	I	N	E	V	A	R	J	I	A	O	T
B	U	R	S	I	T	I	S	O	I	U	N	O	R	E
I	A	G	P	I	T	A	P	N	L	D	F	I	N	S
F	A	S	T	Y	D	E	P	F	I	W	R	I	S	T

© 2010 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com Join us on Facebook 9/13

Ankle, Athletes, Bursitis, Camera, Cavity, Conditions, Diagnose, Discs, Fast, Fibers, Fluids, Foot, Hand, Injuries, Insert, Knees, Legs, Ligament, Light, Menisci, Miniature, Monitor, Patient, Portal, Procedure, Reconstruction, Repair, Results, Shoulder, Skin, Specialist, Spinal, Sports, Tears, Test, Tissue, Tools, Treatment, Tube, Wrist

Last Saturday's Answer: Squeeze

To order THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 and 31 send $5.95 each (US funds only) payable to Universal Uclick, plus $3 postage for the first book order, $1 p&h for each additional book. Send to WONDERWORD, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480. Order online at upuzzles.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/ 24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nigh-time security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nigh-time security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

WHATZIT Solution: For old time's sake

Steven Pixley, Esq.
Attorney at Law
Third Floor, TSL Plaza
Beach Road, Garapan
Post Office Box 7757 SVRB
Saipan, M.P. 96950
Telephone: (670) 233-2898/5175
Facsimile: (670) 233-4716

Attorney for Administratix

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE:	Civil Action No. 10-0213A
ESTATE OF	NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATIX
ATANACIO TABUSO ASUNCION	

Judge: Hon. Robert C. Naraja
Date: October 19, 2010
Time: 1:30 p.m.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Petitioner, Mirasol Dayao, filed a Petition in the Superior Court praying that she be appointed Administratix of the Estate of Atanacio Tabuso Asuncion, deceased to determine the heirs of the decedent and distribute any assets of decedent. The attorney of record is Steven P. Pixley.

The hearing on the Petition is set for October 19, 2010, in a courtroom of the Superior Court, Susupe, Saipan, at 1:30 p.m. All interested person should appear at this hearing. All person having claims against the estate, or against the decedent should file their claims with the Clerk of Court for the Superior Court within sixty (60) days after the first publication of this notice.

Dated this 25th day of August,2010.

By: DEPUTY CLERK OF COURT

LAW OFFICES OF S. JOSHUA BERGER
D'Torres Building, Garapan
P. O. Box 504340
Saipan, MP 96950
Phone (670) 235-8060 Fax 235-8070

Attorney for Petitioner LPP Mortgage, Ltd.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the Estate of	CIVIL ACTION NO. 10-0005
ESTEFANIA SEGIAN CABRERA	**AMENDED NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE**
Deceased.	

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that, pursuant to an Order After Hearing approved by Court Order in this matter on July 7, 2010, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth herein below, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property:

Lot 011 G 818, as more particularly described Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 011 G 17, the original of which was recorded December 9, 1993 as Document No. 93-4285 at Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

1. Date, Time and Place of Sale: The Sale will be held on **Friday, September 17, 2010 at the hour of 1:30 p.m.**, at the Law Offices of S. Joshua Berger , 2nd Floor of the D'Torres Building in Garapan, Saipan. The sale will be open to the general public.
2. Change of Terms and Conditions: The undersigned reserves the right to change the terms hereof by announcement, written or oral, before the auction date and time or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, will be binding on all bidders by constructive notice.

DATED, this 12th day of August, 2010.

/s/ MICHELINE W. BREL, Auctioneer
P.O. Box 505710, Saipan
Tel: (670) 235-8064; 287-6424
E-Mail: michbrel@hotmail.com

QQ RENT A CAR
Starting as low as... **$25.00** without Insurance
Call: 233-9889, 483-8866 or 233-8866
$100 Security Deposit Required
Please visit QQ Store Garapan (2nd Road behind Fire Station)
Some conditions may apply

Club Mr. Wonderful
'A NIGHT TO REMEMBER'
Positions available for
WAITRESS
HOSTESS
SINGER
DANCER
Full-time and part-time
Located at As Lito Road.
288-8090/287-8090

DELTA MANAGEMENT CORPORATION

is seeking

Customer Service Representatives
Cashiers and Pump Attendants
Full Time / Part-time

We are looking for energetic people who are friendly, smiling, dependable, and desires to be a team player to work as Customer Service Representatives.

Successful candidates must be able to demonstrate effective;
People skills
Communication skills
English and Math skills.

- Reliable transportation is required
- Must be punctual
- Must be willing to learn new skills & follow instructions
- Must be able to work a flexible schedule; including
- Sunday's and Holiday's.
- Sales or customer service background helpful
- A High School Diploma or GED required.
- Applications are available @ Shell Gualo Rai (across from Pizza Hut)

Delta Management is an Equal Opportunity Employer

CLICK IT OR TICKET
DAY & NIGHT

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$27
• 5-Liner	$24	$39
• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

time time
time time
sake

WHATZIT? © 2010 www.whatzit.com
Distributed by Universal Uclick

www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in this section

Durant's 38 points carry US to title game

ISTANBUL (AP)—Kevin Durant is unlike most of America's biggest basketball stars. He couldn't wait to wear the red, white and blue this summer.

Especially on Sept. 11.

With a special memorial message on his sneakers, Durant carried the United States into the gold-medal game at the world championship, scoring a U.S.-record 38 points Saturday in an 89-74 victory over Lithuania.

"I just wanted to remember everybody back in the States, everybody that was affected by 9/11," Durant said. "And to play on this day was a great honor and we just tried to do our best to play hard for our country and our families."

Durant soared over defenders or stepped away from them for 3-pointers, scoring 17 in the first quarter to stake the Americans to an early lead that was never seriously challenged.

He went on to surpass Carmelo Anthony's single-game record of 35 points and raise his average in the tournament to 22.1, which would be the best ever by a U.S. player.

"I've seen him score 45, 35, back-to-back," guard and NBA teammate Russell Westbrook said. "It doesn't surprise me at all what he's been doing."

More importantly, Durant guaranteed the Americans a chance at their first world title since 1994. They will play Sunday against Turkey, which beat Serbia 83-82 in the other semifinal.

The Americans will have to overcome the raucous home fans of the Turks, who also are undefeated after their last-second victory. The Sinan Erdem Dome has been a sea of red during Turkey's games and will provide the toughest atmosphere a U.S. team has faced in years.

"That's what we came here to do," guard Eric Gordon said before the U.S. knew its opponent. "We're a young team and we fight through a lot of adversity and that's what we're here for, to win the gold."

There was some doubt this team was the one that could end the U.S. drought after all the superstars from the 2008 Olympic gold medalists declined to play this summer. But Durant kept saying yes, and he's on the verge of going down as the most accomplished U.S. player ever in this event.

Durant posted a message on his Twitter page Saturday that read: "May God bless those who were effected by the events on Sept 11, 2001....9-11-01 on my shoes tonight..you guys will watch over us."

Then he went out and dominated the first quarter, shooting at the basket in front of section 324, which was completely awash in Lithuania green and filled with fans banging drums and waving flags.

Lamar Odom added 13 points and 10 rebounds, while Andre Iguodala led the defensive effort that took Lithuania star Linas Kleiza right out of the game.

"They did a great job on our leader, Linas Kleiza. We couldn't find a solution on their star Kevin Durant," Lithuania coach Kestutis Kemzura said. "He was unstoppable today."

The teams met last month in an exhibition game in Madrid, and the U.S. shot just 3 of 21 in the first quarter before rallying for a 77-61 victory. There would be no slow start this time.

Lithuania led by two midway through the first quarter before Durant seized the game, showing off his entire repertoire. First there was a dunk, followed by a three-point play and two free throws. Iguodala briefly interrupted the Durant show with a dunk, then Durant scored on a follow shot and made a 3-pointer.

In just 3 1/2 minutes, he had taken the U.S. from down two to up 10, and Lithuania never really recovered.

The Lithuanians hit their first eight 3-pointers in their quarterfinal victory over Argentina, but the outside shot wasn't falling Saturday. They hit only three of 12 in the first half, yet still were down only eight with 3 minutes left before Thunder struck—the Oklahoma City Thunder.

Durant and Westbrook combined for nine straight points, extending the lead to 42-25. The U.S. took a 15-point advantage into the half.

The Americans extended the lead to 19 in the third quarter, and though Lithuania kept making little runs, could never get within single digits. Durant finished 14 of 25 from the field, adding nine rebounds in 38 minutes before taking a seat with 44 seconds remaining.

Robertas Javtokas had 15 points and nine rebounds for Lithuania, which lost for the first time and will play for bronze. Kleiza, who was averaging 19.1 points, was limited to four on 1-of-11 shooting.

AP

United States' Kevin Durant reacts during the semifinal between USA and Lithuania at the World Basketball Championship, Saturday, Sept. 11, 2010, in Istanbul, Turkey.

Turkey 83, Serbia 82

At Istanbul, Kerem Tunceri made a layup with 0.5 seconds left and Semih Erden blocked Serbia's final attempt as Turkey reached the final of the basketball world championship.

Turkey got the go-ahead basket in a frantic final minute when Tunceri corralled a loose ball lost by teammate Hedo Turkoglu and drove along the baseline.

After a timeout, Novica Velickovic caught a lob pass but his mid-air attempt was denied by Erden.

"It was nothing except luck," Turkey coach Bogdan Tanjevic said of the finish. "They played the better game."

Turkey will play the United States in Sunday's final. Serbia meets Lithuania for the bronze medal. The two teams have never met in a tournament game, but played three Olympics warmups—two in 2004 and one in 2008—all won by the U.S.

"It's just a like a dream for now," Kerem Gonlum said of Turkey's eight consecutive tournament wins.

Until Tunceri's crossover dribble and 3-pointer over 6-foot-9 (2.06-meter) Velickovic gave Turkey a 76-75 lead, Serbia hadn't trailed since the game's first minutes.

"It was a very tough loss for us but we have to think about next game, the bronze medal game," Milenko Tepic said.

Turkey fell behind 12-6 five minutes in and struggled. Nearly every time it strung together a few points—as it did when tying the game at 15 with 2:38 left in the first quarter—Serbia answered with 3-pointers to spurt ahead again.

Serbia hit six of 13 3-point attempts in the first half, and Turkey hit two of nine.

Tunceri scored eight points in a crucial 14-3 fourth-quarter run that put Turkey up 78-75 with 3:20 left.

Marko Keselj led Serbia with 18 points, and Nenad Kristic and Dusko Savanovic had 15 each.

Turkoglu scored 16 points for Turkey; Omer Onan added 14.

Moore takes the lead at Cog Hill

LEMONT, Ill. (AP)—Ryan Moore has never had a better chance to accomplish so much.

With a 5-under 66 on Saturday to take a one-shot lead in the BMW Championship, he is in great shape to reach the Tour Championship for the first time. That would mean a shot at the $10 million FedEx Cup bonus, and exemptions to the Masters, U.S. Open and British Open.

All he cares about is the trophy being handed out Sunday.

"Just like any golf tournament, I came here to win," Moore said. "That's what I'm here for. I'm not here to try and qualify for the Tour Championship. I'm here to win the Western Open. All that other stuff takes care of itself. If you play good, you get in those things. I'm going to just focus on trying to stay patient, exactly how I have the last few days. Play hard and see what happens."

Moore was at 8-under 205 and had a one-shot lead over Dustin Johnson (68), Charlie Wi (70) and FedEx Cup leader Matt Kuchar (70).

The main attraction Sunday figures to be well down the leaderboard.

Tiger Woods had a 68, his first time under par at Cog Hill this week but not enough to help his cause of advancing in the FedEx Cup playoffs. He was eight shots back and will be paired for the first time this year with Phil Mickelson, who had a 70.

It will be the first time they have played together since the final round of the HSBC Champions in Shanghai last November, Woods' second-to-last tournament before his personal life became unraveled.

Sunday will be their 26th time playing together. Woods is slightly ahead—11-10-4—in posting the lower score.

That could only add to Woods' unlikely bid to get to the Tour Championship. He is seven shots behind where he likely needs to finish to get into the top 30 in the FedEx Cup standings. Woods has never been kept out of a tournament because he was ineligible.

BMW Championship

"I just play," Woods said. "That's all I can do. I'm trying to win this golf tournament, and right now I'm eight back."

For Johnson, it will be the second time he has been in the final group during the FedEx Cup playoffs, and it's becoming more familiar. He was three shots back going into the last round at The Barclays, where he faded with a 72.

Johnson did not look like he would have this chance when he made two bogeys early in his round to fall five shots behind. But starting with No. 7, he ran off five straight birdies, including a wedge on the 10th that he nearly holed.

"Any time you get on a run like that, especially on this course, it changes your momentum," Johnson said.

Kuchar hasn't been nearly as sharp as he was in the opening round when he shot 64, but he's starting to feel better and is hopeful of hitting his stride Sunday. He wound up with a 70 and was just one shot behind. He was five back going into the last round at The Barclays, which he won in a playoff.

"If I can get going and have a day like today and make a few putts, I'll find myself up there with a chance to win tomorrow," he said.

Moore figured this would be his last tournament for a while.

He was No. 58 in the FedEx Cup standings, and needed one of his best weeks just to crack the top 30 and advance to the Tour Championship in two weeks at East Lake. A victory not only would send him to Atlanta, but give him a clear shot at the $10 million bonus.

Even with 18 holes to go, that's a long way off.

Ian Poulter and Paul Casey each shot a 69 and were two shots behind. Ernie Els, who started these playoffs as the No. 1 seed, had a 67 and was another shot behind. Still in the mix is Steve Stricker, who had a 67 and is five shots behind. A victory might be enough to send Stricker to No. 1 in the world.

Woods didn't get much going until the end of his round, trading birdies on the par 5s with a few bogeys when he missed the green and wound up in a tough spot in the bunkers. That started to change with a pair of 15-foot birdie putts on the fourth and fifth holes, a solid par save from the edge of a bunker and a birdie on the par-5 ninth.

He at least was back to even par for the tournament, a year after he won at 19-under par.

"I've been building all week," Woods said. "Each week, it's getting better."

Dressed again in a tie hung loosely around his golf shirt, Moore opened with birdies of 8 feet on the first hole and 4 feet on the fourth. The key might have been No. 7, where he took a double bogey on Friday by trying to use putter from against the collar and blowing it some 8 feet by the hole.

"I ended up in the same type of position today—in the fringe, right around the edge of the rough," Moore said. "And I was like, 'All right, I'm going to belly-wedge it today.' And I knocked it right in. I learned my lesson."

The final round could be nail-biting away from the lead. The top 30 in the standings advance to the Tour Championship, and several players are right on the line. That includes Kevin Na, who was at 5-under 208, and Kevin Streelman, who had a 72 and was well back at 5-over 218. A good round could make a bad week feel better.

Thome's 587th homer gives Twins 1-0 win

CLEVELAND (AP)—Jim Thome hit his 587th homer, passing Hall of Famer Frank Robinson for eighth place on the career list and lifting the Minnesota Twins to a 1-0 win over the Cleveland Indians in 12 innings Saturday.

Thome hit a 2-0 pitch from Justin Germano (0-2) into the Cleveland bullpen in center field, snapping the Twins' 21-inning scoreless streak. It was the only extra-base hit of the game.

AP

Minnesota Twins' Jim Thome watches his ball after hitting a solo home run off Cleveland Indians relief pitcher Justin Germano in the 12th inning in a baseball game, Sunday, Sept. 12, 2010, in Cleveland.

Rangers 7, Yankees 6

At Arlington, Texas, Mariano Rivera ended New York's perfect record when leading after eight innings.

Pitching the ninth inning with a one-run lead, Rivera allowed a tying double to Ian Kinsler, then hit Jeff Francoeur on the left shoulder with the bases loaded, giving the Rangers a victory over the Yankees in yet another long game.

Royals 8, White Sox 2

At Chicago, Kyle Davies pitched six solid innings, and Gregor Blanco and Kila Ka'aihue each had three hits as Kansas City beat Chicago to snap a four-game losing streak.

Blanco and Ka'aihue each scored two runs as Kansas City roughed up Edwin Jackson (3-1) on its way to 18 hits.

Athletics 4, Red Sox 3

At Oakland, California, Rajai Davis hit a tiebreaking RBI triple in the seventh inning and Andrew Bailey struck out David Ortiz to end the game, preserving Oakland's victory over Boston.

Adrian Beltre doubled in Victor Martinez with two out in the ninth to get Boston within one but pinch-hitter Ortiz looked at a called third strike, giving Bailey his 23rd save in 26 opportunities.

Rays 13, Blue Jays 1

At Toronto, Brad Hawpe hit a grand slam for Tampa Bay, and Wade Davis won his seventh straight decision.

Kelly Shoppach also homered as the AL wild-card leaders won for the third time in four games.

Davis (12-9) improved to 3-0 with a 3.24 ERA in four starts since a stint on the 15-day disabled list with a strained shoulder. The right-hander, who leads AL rookies in wins, allowed one run and seven hits in seven innings, struck out six and walked three.

Angels 7, Mariners 4

At Anaheim, California, Hideki Matsui homered and Torii Hunter had four RBIs to lead Los Angeles to the victory over Felix Hernandez and Seattle.

Ervin Santana (16-9) tied a career high for victories, allowing three runs and five hits over 7 1-3 innings.

Orioles 5, Tigers 3

At Detroit, Adam Jones had four hits and Jeremy Guthrie pitched seven shutout innings to help Baltimore get the victory over Detroit.

Brian Roberts and Felix Pie had three hits apiece for Baltimore.

Padres 1, Giants 0

At San Diego, Tim Stauffer threw six sparkling innings and Yorvit Torrealba homered as the San Diego Padres beat the San Francisco Giants to retain the National League West lead.

The Padres (80-61) snapped a virtual tie for the top spot in the division, taking a one-game lead over the Giants (80-63) after dropping the first two in the four-game set. San Francisco pulled within one percentage point of San Diego with Friday night's 1-0 win.

Braves 6, Cardinals 3, 12 innings.

At Atlanta, Alex Gonzalez hit a three-run homer in the 12th inning as Atlanta beat St. Louis to move into a share of the NL East lead. With runners on first and third base and the outfielders playing shallow to guard against a sacrifice fly, Gonzalez hit the winning shot off Mitchell Boggs (2-3) into the left-field seats.

The Braves improved their major league-best home record to 51-20 and grabbed a share of the division lead with the Philadelphia Phillies, who lost to the New York Mets 4-3.

Mets 4, Phillies 3

At New York, Mike Pelfrey was dominant into the eighth inning to earn his career-high 14th victory as New York stopped Philadelphia's four-game winning streak.

Ike Davis kept up his big September with four hits and three RBIs and Jose Reyes homered for the Mets, helping quiet the red-clad Philadelphia fans in the Citi Field crowd of 35,788.

Marlins 4, Nationals 1

At Washington, Anibal Sanchez remained unbeaten against Washington, allowing four hits in 7 2-3 innings to pitch Florida past the Nationals for the fifth straight time.

Emilio Bonifacio hit a two-run single to back Sanchez (12-9), who gave up one run, struck out four and walked none. He has a 2.29 career ERA against the Nationals, going 2-0 this year. Wilson Ramos' RBI double in the eighth was the first earned run Sanchez allowed against the Nationals in 23 1-3 innings.

Dodgers 6, Astros 3

At Houston, reliever Brandon Lyon's threw away a bunt for a tiebreaking two-run error in a three-run ninth inning to give Los Angeles a win over Houston.

Dodgers manager Joe Torre was ejected in the first inning by plate umpire Paul Emmel. Torre complained from the dugout after Casey Blake was called out on strikes, then left the dugout following the ejection to speak with Emmel.

Reds 5, Pirates 4, 10 innings

At Cincinnati, Joey Votto led off the bottom of the 10th inning with his 33rd homer, sending Cincinnati to a wild victory over Pittsburgh that extended their NL Central lead to a daunting seven games.

Votto hit the fourth pitch from Justin Thomas (0-1) into the seats in left, touching off chants of "MVP" with his first career game-ending homer.

Cubs 1, Brewers 0

At Milwaukee, Ryan Dempster struck out eight batters in seven crisp innings, earning his 100th career win and helping Chicago beat Milwaukee.

Xavier Nady homered for Chicago, which got an outstanding outing from Carlos Zambrano in a 4-0 victory in the series opener Friday night.

Rockies 2, Diamondbacks 1

At Denver, pinch-hitter Jonathan Herrera's sacrifice fly off Mike Hampton broke a seventh-inning tie as Colorado rallied past Arizona for its ninth straight victory.

Rookie Matt Reynolds (1-0) picked up his first major league win by working one scoreless inning as Colorado stayed 2 1/2 games behind San Diego in the NL West race. The Padres beat San Francisco 1-0.

Djokovic upsets Federer, will face Nadal in final

NEW YORK (AP)—A little more than an hour after wasting two match points and losing in the U.S. Open semifinals, Roger Federer headed for the exit.

Dressed in his on-court outfit—powder-blue shirt, brown shorts, custom-made sneakers with the New York skyline sketched on the heels—Federer walked out of Arthur Ashe Stadium, accompanied by his wife. Between licks of a lollipop, he paused to tell tournament workers, "See you next year."

So used to playing in the final at Flushing Meadows, the five-time champion left earlier than usual. With everyone expecting a Rafa vs. Roger title match at the U.S. Open, Novak Djokovic got in the way.

Djokovic prevented what would have been the eighth Grand Slam championship match between tennis' top two men—and first such showdown at Flushing Meadows—by coming back to stun Federer 5-7, 6-1, 5-7, 6-2, 7-5 in Saturday's semifinals.

"They all pretty much feel the same. They feel somewhat empty at the end, because you have tried everything—and maybe it was luck. Maybe it was he played well. Maybe you didn't pick the right shot. Maybe he did," said Federer, who had won 45 of his previous 46 matches at the U.S. Open, reaching six consecutive finals.

"You feel like you left something out there if you lose a match having had match point," Federer added. "It wasn't a final, so I'm not as disappointed if it would have been a final."

His loss means that the third-seeded Djokovic will be standing between No. 1 Rafael Nadal and a career Grand Slam in the final Sunday, when the forecast calls for a 50 percent chance of rain. Nadal owns eight major titles but never had been past the semifinals at the U.S. Open before beating No. 12 Mikhail Youzhny 6-2, 6-3, 6-4 earlier Saturday.

Nadal will be bidding to become the first man since Rod Laver in 1969 to win the French Open, Wimbledon and the U.S. Open in the same season. The 24-year-old Spaniard also can become the seventh man in tennis history to own at least one championship from each Grand Slam tournament.

"I won't watch," Federer said, "but I hope he wins."

Federer's record 16 Grand Slam titles include the 2004-08 U.S. Opens, but he repeatedly let leads slip away against Djokovic. Federer took the first set, then the third. Even after Djokovic forced a fifth set, Federer twice was a single point from winning.

"One of those matches," 2008 Australian Open champion Djokovic said, "you'll always remember."

With the crowd in Arthur Ashe Stadium trying to will Federer to victory—because of the tantalizing prospect of a final between him and Nadal - he couldn't close the deal. Nadal and Federer have played in seven Grand Slam finals: three at Wimbledon, three at the French Open and one at the Australian Open.

They've never met in any round at the U.S. Open, mainly because Nadal couldn't hold up his end of the bargain. He lost in the semifinals in 2008 and 2009, and earlier in previous years.

For Federer, Saturday's setback comes after losses in the quarterfinals of the French Open and Wimbledon, and he closes the 2010 Grand Slam season having played in one major final—the first year since 2003 that he hasn't reached at least two.

"It's only going to fuel me with more motivation to practice hard and get back to Grand Slam finals, which I haven't been in for the last three Slams," Federer said. "I feel like I'm playing well, and I would have deserved to be in the finals tomorrow."

Federer's 3-hour, 44-minute loss to Djokovic was by far the day's best match, much more entertaining than the men's semifinal that preceded it.

Nadal dominated with his serve again, holding 13 of 14 times Saturday, making him 89 of 91 for the tournament.

"After a lot of work," said Nadal, who hasn't dropped a set these two weeks, "I am here in the final."

In 2008, he lost in the semifinals to Andy Murray, and now says he was wiped out mentally after a long, if successful, summer that included a gold medal at the Beijing Olympics. In 2009, he lost to eventual champion Juan Martin del Potro, while dealing with achy knees and a torn abdominal muscle.

"Well, it's another step, I think, in my career, so for sure it's a very important victory for me," Nadal said. "To be in the final of the last Grand Slam of the year is something new, because I always arrived here with problems."

Not this year. He took three weeks off after Wimbledon—skipping Spain's Davis Cup quarterfinal—to rest and get treatment on the knees that bothered him so much of last season and the beginning of this season.

"Tough to say who is better than Rafa," Youzhny said. "I mean, he's No. 1 and he played really good tennis."

Plus, Djokovic needed to put in a lot more work than Nadal on Saturday and, unlike at the other Grand Slam tournaments, won't benefit from a day off between the semifinals and final.

"I am tired. There's no secret about that," Djokovic said. "For four sets, I've been quite OK. Fifth set was very intensive, mentally and physically, and it took a lot out of me."

Told it's supposed to rain Sunday, Djokovic opened his eyes wide and rubbed his hands together.

"I don't know the rituals, how to invite the rain," he said. "An extra day would be great."

Cepeda tops USSP 8-ball tournament

Patrick Cepeda outlasted a field of winners to grab first place in Sunday's USSP Customer Appreciation 8-ball tournament.

The finalists fought through a series of qualifying tournaments since July 4 for a shot at $100 and the Pacific Amusement's first place trophy.

Patrick Taitano took home $50 and the second place trophy, losing only to Cepeda. Taitano started strong, sending defending champion Simeon Kapileo, Ron Chisato and Taylor Watanabe to the loser's bracket.

Watanabe had beaten Annie Tesiro, while Chisato started with a win over Leonard Sablan. Cepeda defeated Nizer Masayos, Arnel Orbita and Taitano in moving to the top of the winner's bracket. Masayos had gotten by Rick Rengiil, and Orbita had topped Erina Olkeriil and John Mongami. Mongami started with a win over Mei Rengiil.

In the loser's bracket, Masayos eliminated Sablan and Mongami while Mei Rengiil did the same to Rick Rengiil and Orbita.

Watanabe came back with wins over Masayos and Mei Rengiil but fell to Taitano again and had to settle for third place.

Taitano's celebration was short-lived, as he fell to Cepeda a second time in the final.

USSP's next Customer Appreciation 8-ball tournament will be on Oct. 10, the night before Columbus Day.

For more information, please call Rose or Ken Phillips at 233-1984.

CLIJSTERS

From Page 28

was awarded $2.2 million—the champion's check of $1.7 million, plus another $500,000 for finishing second in the U.S. Open Series standings that take into account hard-court tuneup tournaments.

"I've always felt more comfortable on this surface. Not just this year, but even when I was 14, 15, 16," the 27-year-old Clijsters said in an interview the week before the U.S. Open began. "Everything comes easier."

Sure does, nowadays.

After losing the first four Grand Slam finals of her career, Belgium's Clijsters has won her last three. Perhaps that will give some hope to Russia's Zvonareva, who is now 0-2 in major championship matches, after losing to Serena Williams in the Wimbledon final in July.

Not since 1995 has a U.S. Open women's final lasted three sets, and this one wasn't about to end that trend. Indeed, you have to go back to 1976 to find a women's final in which the loser won only three games.

Put simply, the second-seeded Clijsters was too dominant; the seventh-seeded Zvonareva too shaky.

Over and over, Clijsters would scramble to balls that seemed out of reach and get them back over the net, sometimes doing full splits right there along the baseline. She compiled a 17-6 edge in winners, and made nine fewer unforced errors than Zvonareva, 24-15.

Clijsters broke twice to take the first set, and she did it by letting Zvonareva cause her own problems. Clijsters needed only four winners in that set, because Zvonareva made 13 unforced errors, including dumping a backhand into the net on the last point.

After that mistake, Zvonareva told a ballkid to get out of the way, so she could take a practice swing on her backhand side.

Didn't work.

When Zvonareva failed to get to a backhand and fell behind 40-love in the opening game of the second set, she cracked her racket against the court twice, breaking it, and earning a warning from the chair umpire.

Then things got worse for Zvonareva, known for losing her temper during matches.

She yelled at herself after two unforced errors in the second game of that set, and proceeded to double-fault to get broken at love and trail 2-0. All things considered, it was nothing compared to the tantrum Zvonareva threw in her fourth-round loss at last year's U.S. Open, when she wasted six match points. She bawled. She pounded her palm on her leg while sitting on the court. She slammed her racket against her leg. She begged the chair umpire to let her have some scissors so she could cut tape off her knees.

Zvonareva seemed to be much better at harnessing her emotions of late, perhaps thanks in part to her habit of placing a towel over her head during changeovers to block out distractions. That worked wonders at Wimbledon this summer, and for nearly two weeks at the U.S. Open.

But Clijsters never gave her a chance to get into this match. It was so lopsided, CBS analyst John McEnroe felt compelled to tell viewers: "This might be the most I've ever wanted Kim Clijsters to lose serve. She's such a great person, but this is difficult to watch right now."

IT&E

From Page 28

any possible disciplinary action against players involved and thus is moving the finals to Wednesday.

The almost free-for-all scuffle took place with only 3:12 left in the fourth quarter with Hi-5 ahead by only a hair, 61-60.

The fracas was trigged by a collision between IT&E's Elmer Esdrelon and Hi-5's Kae Bernardo with the former hacking the latter, who was going up for a breakaway layup. Bernardo slammed hard to the cushion underneath the goal, reacted to the contact, and pushed Esdrelon back. Seconds later several players from both camps were already in the playing court pushing each other and exchanging words, while referees and table officials tried to pacify them.

When the game resumed each team lost a player, as referees threw IT&E's Junar Guiab and Hi-5's Dave Sablan out of the game.

Hi-5 was hurt the most by Sablan's absence, as the heated match went into two overtime periods and the team was down to only five players in the second extension. Sablan left with 12 points.

Hi-5 had two chances to win the game in the first overtime, but Wowie Abuel missed a fallaway jumper and Bernardo's Hail Mary shot rolled out of the rim.

IT&E had the opportunity to win it right away in regulation, but Bernard Aquino's long triple with the clock ticking hit nothing but air, sending the game in first overtime.

In the second overtime, Hi-5 badly missed the offense of Sablan, as the team went scoreless in more than three minutes.

In contrast, IT&E had Esdrelon, Mel Capalad, and Brendon Talania drilling crucial baskets.

After a Bruce Berline split broke the tie, 83-82, Esdrelon nailed a layup and it was followed by a 24-second shot clock beating shot from Capalad. Esdrelon then made another layup off a steal to make it an 89-82 lead for IT&E.

Abuel broke Hi-5's silence with a jumper and scored another one to threaten IT&E, 86-89, with less than a minute left. He had a chance to tie the match when IT&E lost the ball, as it was complaining against the clock that momentarily stopped running instead of taking care of the leather. However, Abuel missed from downtown and Hi-5 kissed its finals bid goodbye after Brendon Talania canned two free throws in the ensuing play. An uncontested layup from Berline pegged the final score.

Hi-5 led most of the way in the do-or-die game before losing momentum after the heated incident in the fourth quarter.

IT&E 93 – Esdrelon 18, Berline 15, Aquino 15, Capalad 10, Mendoza 9, Talania 6, Schuler 4.

Hi-5 86 – Abuel 22, Bernardo 19, Santos 12, Sablan 12, Demapan 8, Moises 3.

Scoring by quarters: 16-15, 32-28, 50-42, 67-67, 82-82, 93-86.

KABIRIEL

From Page 28

mind the difference.

"I am not worried of my time. My goal was just to defend my title," said Kabiriel, who was runner-up in the first two editions of the race before winning for the first time in 2008 with a personal best time of 1:31.50. Eli Torgeson holds the Banzai half marathon record at 1:18.10 posted in 2007.

Coming in at second place was Caesar Danao, who submitted 1:40:33, while Korean Kim Keum Bae Ji complete the Top 3 after recording 1:46:31.

In the women's division, Rebecca Reed prevailed with her time of 2:03.41. It was way behind the 2009 winning time (1:46:17) of four-time champion Mamiko Oshima-Berger, who was off-island and could not defend her title. However, Reed completed the course ahead of several male runners. Banzai run first timer Natasha Kuckuck placed second with a time of 2:05:56.

The half marathon course started and finished at Banzai cliff with runners negotiating flat and coral roads and trails along FEBC, Bird Island overlook, Last Command Post, Santa Clause Lane, and Cowtown.

In the 4.3-mile fun run, Michael Mancao and Heather Kennedy topped the men's and women's divisions, respectively.

Mancao won the men's division by only two seconds against Ronald Villafria. The Marianas High School student clocked in at 27:56 over Villafria's 27:58. Kagman High School's Douglas Dillay finished third with his time of 28:28.

Kennedy crossed the finish line of the fun run at 33:36 to beat Rebecca Iseman (38:35) and Becca Schroeder (38:36).

A total of 27 runners joined the fun run, including Owen Kabiriel, Jack's son and the youngest participant in the race at eight. The younger Kabiriel logged 1:51:04.

In the half marathon, there were 17 participants, who were greeted by a relatively good weather at the start of the races. Majority of the runners were already done with their races when it started to rain past 8am.

Meanwhile, race organizer Brad Ruszala would like to thank the participants, sponsors, and volunteers for making the Banzai run a success.

This year's Banzai races were sponsored by POWERade, Coca-Cola, Subway, Foremost, Scoops, Glimpses, IT&E, IP&E, Pacific Islands Club, Marianas Visitors Authority, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Digital Motion, Brabu Pharmacy, Michelob Ultra, Top Notch, The Athlete's Foot, All-Star Sports, XTERRA Saipan, and Taga Inc.

MOBIL

From Page 28

the playing court in protest of the two technical fouls charged against them.

The first technical foul was due to an infraction when one Marianas Wireless player hung on to the net, according to referee Ray Lizama. The second one was for excessive complaining and with Mobil getting several technical free throws plus ball possession, Marianas Wireless decided it had seen enough and walked out.

League committee officials talked to Marianas Wireless, giving the team a chance to come back and play, but Joey Siriban's wards begged off. Saipan Tribune could not reach Siriban to comment on the team's decision, while Emon Lodge commissioner Bong Malasarte said he had a discussion with Marianas Wireless officials and the team knew the repercussions of its actions.

Meanwhile, Mobil's championship's foe has yet to be decided, as the second semis match between Armatech and MBI-Right Guard was also as controversial as the first semis tiff.

In the second semis match, Armatech was ahead, 80-79, when the final buzzer sounded. Elmer Esdrelon gave Armatech the lead after canning two free throws in the last 6.2 seconds of the fourth quarter. MBI had the last shot, but Ivan De Vero muffed a fadeaway jumper against Melvin Capalad.

After the game, MBI coach Kitz Barja went to the scorers' table, arguing that there was a mistake in the scores tabulation.

After consultations with game officials, league officials ruled that there was indeed a technical error in the scoring thus MBI and Armatech will play for five more minutes on Sunday with the score tied at 79-all, to determine the winner of the second finals ticket.

The error came from the free throw mistakenly credited to Armatech's Mel Capalad.

MBI was ahead, 79-74, when Capalad made his first charity to move Armatech within four, 75-79. He then missed the second free throw, but Armatech collared several offensive rebounds before Capalad made a bucket to move the team within two, 77-79.

After Capalad's basket, staff at the scorers' table inadvertently credited another free throw to Capalad, cutting MBI's lead to one, 78-79. MBI's Rex Yabut then missed a jumper and when Armatech took possession, Esdrelon was fouled on his way to the basket and was given two free throws.

Mobil 74 – Peredo 18, Lizama 17, Estolas 16, Rabauliman 8, De Guzman 6, Tumaquip 2.

Marianas Wireless 61 – Bernardo 13, Pantaleon 13, Tamayo 12, Abuel 11, Basila 4m Aquino 2.

Scoring by quarters: 21-20, 41-40, 73-59, 74-61.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	87	55	.613	—
Tampa Bay	86	55	.610	1/2
Boston	78	64	.549	9
Toronto	72	70	.507	15
Baltimore	55	87	.387	32

Central Division

Minnesota	84	58	.592	—
Chicago	78	64	.549	6
Detroit	71	72	.497	13 1/2
Kansas City	58	83	.411	25 1/2
Cleveland	58	84	.408	26

West Division

Texas	79	63	.556	—
Oakland	71	70	.504	7 1/2
Los Angeles	69	73	.486	10
Seattle	55	87	.387	24

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Atlanta	82	61	.573	—
Philadelphia	82	61	.573	—
Florida	72	69	.511	9
New York	70	72	.493	11 1/2
Washington	60	82	.423	21 1/2

Central Division

Cincinnati	81	61	.570	—
St. Louis	73	67	.521	7
Houston	67	75	.472	14
Milwaukee	65	76	.461	15 1/2
Chicago	62	80	.437	19
Pittsburgh	47	94	.333	33 1/2

West Division

San Diego	80	61	.567	—
San Francisco	80	63	.559	1
Colorado	78	64	.549	2 1/2
Los Angeles	71	72	.497	10
Arizona	57	85	.401	23 1/2

Yesterday's Games

Florida 4, Washington 1
N.Y. Mets 4, Philadelphia 3
San Diego 1, San Francisco 0
Atlanta 6, St. Louis 3, 12 innings
L.A. Dodgers 6, Houston 3
Chicago Cubs 1, Milwaukee 0
Cincinnati 5, Pittsburgh 4, 10 innings
Colorado 2, Arizona 1
Tampa Bay 13, Toronto 1
Baltimore 5, Detroit 3
Kansas City 8, Chicago White Sox 2
Minnesota 1, Cleveland 0, 12 innings
Texas 7, N.Y. Yankees 6
Oakland 4, Boston 3
L.A. Angels 7, Seattle 4

BMW CHAMPIONSHIP SCORES

LEMONT, Illinois (AP)—Scores Saturday from the BMW Championship, a $7.5 million US PGA Tour event at the 7,616-yard, par 71 Cog Hill Golf and Country Club, Dubsdread Course:

THIRD ROUND

Ryan Moore	65-74-66—205
Dustin Johnson	68-70-68—206
Charlie Wi	67-69-70—206
Matt Kuchar	64-72-70—206
Ian Poulter	66-72-69—207
Paul Casey	69-69-69—207
Ernie Els	70-71-67—208
Kevin Na	70-69-69—208
Zach Johnson	70-73-66—209
Greg Chalmers	72-69-68—209
K.J. Choi	71-69-69—209
Retief Goosen	67-71-71—209
Marc Leishman	72-65-72—209
Steve Stricker	70-73-67—210
Tim Clark	70-70-70—210
Justin Rose	68-71-71—210
Luke Donald	68-70-72—210
Camilo Villegas	70-70-71—211
Bill Haas	70-73-69—212
David Toms	70-72-70—212
Adam Scott	71-69-72—212
Jim Furyk	73-71-69—213
Tiger Woods	73-72-68—213
Phil Mickelson	72-71-70—213
Brian Gay	68-73-72—213
Sean O'Hair	75-68-71—214
Nick Watney	70-74-70—214
Stewart Cink	70-73-71—214
Robert Allenby	72-70-72—214
Michael Sim	72-70-72—214
Matt Jones	71-70-73—214
Hunter Mahan	71-68-75—214
Carl Pettersson	72-72-71—215
Bubba Watson	72-74-69—215
Martin Laird	73-73-69—215
Vaughn Taylor	70-71-74—215
Vijay Singh	70-77-68—215
Bo Van Pelt	72-71-73—216
Rickie Fowler	71-73-72—216
Tim Petrovic	73-70-73—216
Ryan Palmer	73-72-71—216
Geoff Ogilvy	73-72-72—217
Anthony Kim	70-75-72—217
Brendon de Jonge	74-71-72—217
Charley Hoffman	70-77-70—217
Tom Gillis	70-72-76—218
Justin Leonard	72-71-75—218
Bryce Molder	74-72-72—218
Kevin Streelman	71-75-72—218
Stuart Appleby	76-73-69—218
J.B. Holmes	77-72-69—218
Rory McIlroy	76-74-68—218
Jason Dufner	74-72-73—219
Jason Day	72-76-71—219
Heath Slocum	71-74-75—220
Jason Bohn	73-74-73—220
Brandt Snedeker	76-72-72—220
Rory Sabbatini	69-71-80—220
Jeff Overton	72-76-72—220
Y.E. Yang	73-78-69—220
Ben Crane	76-77-67—220
Fredrik Jacobson	74-75-72—221
Brian Davis	73-72-77—222
Ricky Barnes	73-74-76—223
John Senden	74-75-74—223
Andres Romero	80-70-73—223
Stephen Ames	74-77-72—223
Scott Verplank	76-75-73—224
D.J. Trahan	75-76-75—226
Angel Cabrera	75-76-75—226

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Weekend Sports

Crowning week for champions

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The week belonged to the champions of a softball and basketball leagues and a golf tournament.

Busch A Mad was crowned champions of the 2010 Belau Amateur Softball Association Women's League after beating Sakudi in the best-of-three finals at the Dandan Elementary School Ballfield.

Sakudi won Game 1, 8-3, but Busch A Mad swept the last two games, winning Games 2, 3-2, and 3, 5-4, to grab the championship.

In golf, Tony Satur, Peter Tenorio, Joe Saures, Jun Hak Song, Rick Kautz, and Me Ae Jeon topped their respective flights in the first ever Docomo Pacific Golf Classic held at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort.

In basketball, Satbahi reigned supreme in the 2010 Miller Lite Invitational Basketball League after edging Wings Travel in the one-game finals, 95-92.

Satbahi's Andy Mortos was named Finals MVP after scoring 20 points, while the Fixers' J.R. Barrios took the regular season MVP honors.

In the UFO league, MDX Chow Queen claimed the pennant trophy after winning over MAFEA Ali'i Konflikt. MDX is still unbeaten in five games with only one match left in the round-robin regular season and is assured of the No. 1 seeding in the playoffs.

Still in basketball, the Budweiser caging is down to only two teams.

After the CNMI Nationals advanced to the finals first, IT&E followed suit, following a 93-83 playoff win over Hi-5.

Also winning a pennant was Armatech, which finished the regular season of the Emon Lodge caging with an 8-1 mark.

Emon Lodge was down to four teams, going into yesterday's game with Armatech scheduled to face MBI-Right Guard in the semis, and Mobil slated to duel Marianas Wireless in the other semis pairing.

Other leagues on island continued with the Saipan Electronic Dart Association having its games in various bars here. SEDA also continued to host the Bud Light Lime Inter-Government Dart League.

In other developments last week, the Marianas Racing Association was revived, while Northern Mariana Islands Volleyball Association sent a representative to FIVB Congress in Rome.

MRA is back after forming a five-member board of directors. The new officers are president James Eller, vice president Daniel Westphal, secretary and treasurer Jay Doronila, and directors Dave Celis and Adam Hardwicke.

Representing NMIVA and the CNMI to the FIVB Congress was Gabriel White. He attended the meeting last Thursday and Friday at the Rome Marriott Park, joining representatives from more than 200 member federations of the world governing body of volleyball.

WALTER SUTHERLAND

Docomo Pacific Golf Classic A Flight champion Peter Tenorio, center, poses with Docomo Pacific president Jay Shedd, right, and tournament organizer James Nelson during the awards banquet at Laolao Bay Golf Resort Saturday.

WALTER SUTHERLAND

From left, Marianas Racing Association president James Eller, vice president Dan Westphal, secretary and treasurer Jay Doronila, and board members Adam Hardwicke and Dave Celis make up the newly resurrected MRA board of directors.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The first place SEDA Ladies League Strikers, from D'Pirates Bar & Grill, pose for a team photo after their win, last Monday, at their home bar over Gaia's Lady Gagas.

WALTER SUTHERLAND

Satbahi celebrates after being crowned champion of the 2010 Miller Lite Invitational Basketball League. Satbahi defeated Wings Travel, 95-92, last week at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Hoegaarden IT&E's Kirk Schuler beats Becks Sixsevenoh players in the rebound play during their playoff game in the Budweiser caging last week at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Members of Busch A Mad pose with their championship trophy after stunning Sakudi in the finals of the 2010 Belau Amateur Softball Association Women's League at the Dandan Elementary School Ballfield.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

MDX Chow Queen's Ivan De Vero loses the ball against two MAFEA Ali'i Konflikt players during their battle for the pennant in the UFO caging last week at the JP Center Basketball Court.

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Clijsters wins third US Open title

By HOWARD FENDRICH
AP TENNIS WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)— From the time she was a teen, Kim Clijsters loved playing on American hard courts. She liked the way she could move on the surface, liked the way she could see the ball.

Her game is now as good as it gets on this stuff.

Clijsters won a second consecutive U.S. Open championship and third overall Saturday night, easily beating Vera Zvonareva 6-2, 6-1 in a final that lasted 59 minutes and lacked any drama.

Clijsters is the first woman since Venus Williams in 2000-01 to win the title in Flushing Meadows two years in a row. And Clijsters' U.S. Open winning streak is actually up to 21 matches because she also won the 2005 title. She missed the tournament in 2006 because of injuries, including wrist surgery, and skipped it the next two years while taking time off to get married and have a baby.

Her 2 1/2-year-old daughter, Jada, was in the stands at Arthur Ashe Stadium on Saturday night, munching on a thick slice of watermelon, then sucking on some candy. Sort of like "Take Your Daughter to Work Day," except how many kids get to watch Mom win a Grand Slam championship?

Last year in New York, when Jada pranced around the court during the postmatch ceremony, Clijsters became the first mother since Evonne Goolagong Cawley in 1980 to take home a major trophy.

On Saturday, in addition to another silver cup, Clijsters

See CLIJSTERS on Page 26

AP

Kim Clijsters, of Belgium, holds the championship trophy and her daughter, Jada Ellie, after winning the finals at the U.S. Open tennis tournament in New York, Saturday, Sept. 11, 2010.

Kabiriel records three-peat in Banzai run

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Veteran runner Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel had a mission accomplished after topping the 5th POWERade Banzai Memorial Half Marathon and Fun Run last Saturday morning.

Kabiriel completed the 13.1-mile flat and trail race in one hour, 39 minutes, and 20 seconds to rule the men's division for the third straight year. Kabiriel's time in the weekend race was more than three seconds behind his 2009 winning time (1:36:09), but the three-time champion would not

See KABIRIEL on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel raises his arms in triumph after ruling the 5th POWERade Banzai Memorial Half Marathon and Fun Run last Saturday morning.

Mobil marches to finals as Marianas Wireless walks out

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Mobil unexpectedly had an easy ride to the finals of the Emon Lodge 179 Freemasonry Inter-Color Basketball League after Marianas Wireless walked out of the semis game yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Mobil was ahead, 74-61, with still 8:13 left in the fourth quarter when Marianas Wireless players picked up their bags and walked away from

See MOBIL on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Mobil's Marvin Rabauliman goes up for a shot against Marianas Wireless' Nat Banatasa, left, and Kae Bernardo during their semis game in the Emon Lodge caging yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

IT&E slips past Hi-5 in double overtime

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A bruised Bruce Berline joins Hoegaarden IT&E's huddle during the closing seconds of their playoff game against Bacardi Hi-5 in the Budweiser caging last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

It will be Hoagaarden IT&E and Bud Light CNMI Nationals in the finals of the 2010 Budweiser Men's Basketball League after the former escaped with a 93-83 double overtime win over Bacardi Mojito Hi-5 in their altercation-marred playoff game last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

However, Game 1 of the IT&E-CNMI Nationals title showdown originally set for tonight was pushed to Wednesday as per Basketball Association of Northern Mariana Islands' decision.

The delay came following BANMI board's meeting yesterday and after news of IT&E and Hi-5 players getting into a nearly ugly fight during the semis game reached the association. Pending more information about the incident, BANMI would not be making decision as to

See IT&E on Page 26